THE CURRENT DIGEST OF THE SOVIET PRESS

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Published Each Week by

The Joint Committee on Slavic Studies

Appointed by the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council

Byzantine Studies, Turkey and Today's Politics

Plenary Session of Central Council of Trade Unions

The State of the Drama—Continued

Expurgating Feudal Elements From a Folk Epic

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Each week the Current Digest of the Soviet Press presents a selection of the contents of the Soviet press, carefully translated in full into English, or objectively condensed by competent editors, and arranged by subject matter. The translations are presented as documentary materials without elaboration or comment. They state the opinions and views of the original authors, not of the Joint Committee on Slavic Studies appointed by the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council. These materials are published in order that they may be of direct assistance to persons engaged in the research and interpretation of public affairs.

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The State of the Drama—Continued

FOR TRUTH TO LIFE! * (By A. Sofronov. Literaturnaya gazeta, May 27, pp. 2-3. 3000 words. Condensed text:) In recent years one deficiency common to many of our plays has become more and more noticeable: they have ceased to interest the audiences. ... It is not only that the quality of plays has declined; the number of new plays has decreased sharply too. The cause of this was revealed with great profundity by Pravda in its article "Overcome the Lag in Dramaturgy." ...

We have forgotten the high traditions of Soviet dramatic art and have almost entirely ceased to focus our works on sharp life conflicts. There have even appeared "theorists" who preach the notion that in the period of transition from socialism to communism there are no sharp conflicts in life and therefore no sources for negative characters in our plays. Certain officials of organizations which control the repertoire and of the Committee on Affairs of the Arts made every effort to further this point of view and to persuade playwrights to accept it. ...

Whereas previously the cosmopolitan critics urged our playwrights to depict dual personalities, to show the struggle between good and evil in the soul of man, thus making common cause with bourgeois ideologists of the Sartre type, certain critics have now started to demand that playwrights and writers depict only ideal characters, ideal types of our age. But if you reflect deeply on this theory, you will see that it is simply the reverse of the same coin. To smooth out and varnish our life is to reduce the educational role of Soviet art and literature. When this happens our works of art no longer fulfill their public function and cease to influence the minds of the people. Such an art soothes and lulls the vigilance of our people in their struggle against survivals of capitalism and stifles their desire to combat everything hostile to our life and ethics.

But our Soviet life supplies playwrights with dozens and hundreds of life conflicts, large and small. Our society is not standing still! It is only pedants and vulgarizers who preach that there now remains, as it were, only one conflict: that of man with nature. ...

At a discussion in the Union of Soviet Writers the opinion was expressed that at the great construction projects of communism there are not and cannot be any negative people. A false point of view! The great projects represent a gathering of thousands of people from all parts of our country. Among them—and these of course make up the great majority—are real heroes. But there are others who have come for personal motives, for the sake of high earnings. There are others who in recent years have gone from one job to another and are still wandering in search of a "fast ruble." There are, finally, fraudulent, dishonest people who are trying to hide themselves in the large group from the eye of the public. And the writer's duty is to show these projects in all their human diversity. But to read some works—especially poetry—one would think that the great construction projects were just one long holiday and that people working there are using only their intellectual energy—that they are practically wearing kid gloves in the foundation ditches.

Nothing of the sort! The construction projects are tremendous labor; they are the struggle of opinions, the clashing and breaking of characters, the struggle between personal and public interests, the re-education of people—they are dozens, hundreds of conflicts which we must observe and show to the people.

Plays must portray the working man in a comprehensive and detailed manner. To portray a worker does not mean to bring a turner onto the stage at the moment when he is turning out a mold. We must get to know his inner world, his loves, his friendships, the whole range of feelings and passions which possess him, and embody all these in clear characters which make an impression on the audience.

But of late the characters in many of our plays and films have lost the ability to love, to be jealous or indignant and to hate. In the film "Donets Miners" a young couple confess their love for each other four times. Their conversation runs approximately as follows:

"Do you love me?"
"Yes."
"And do you love me?"
"Very much."
"Do you love me?"
"Of course."
"Do you love me?"
"You can say that again!"

Throughout the entire film the unfortunate lovers do not kiss once. Too bad for them, too bad for the audience! Love of this kind is frequently depicted in prose works too. For example, in Alexander Bek's novel "New Profile" the heroes, Shumeiko and Nina, confess their love while collating analyses of a metal —without taking time off from work, so to speak.

Basically we, the Soviet playwrights, are responsible to the people and the Party for the fact that our plays have lost the pulse of full-blooded life, that our characters have become commonplace and sketchy. We must exert all our efforts and abilities in order that dramaturgy and theater art may reflect the full complexity of feelings, the full beauty of life, the entire inspired, creative impulse of our people building communism.

To search for conflicts and embody them in our dramatic works—this is our chief task. ...

Another major task is the creation of competent Soviet comedy. The spectator yearns for a good, funny comedy of character on a modern theme. He wants both to enjoy himself at the theater and to laugh at stupidity and backwardness.

Militant, principled theatrical criticism must also fight for plays that are full of life, for diversity of genres and craftsmanship in dramaturgy. But take, for example, the newspaper Sovetskoye iskusstvo. As Pravda rightly pointed out, it does not take a clear stand of its own in assessing works of art and constantly expresses contradictory, inconsistent and sometimes unprincipled judgments about dramaturgy. The staff of the paper shows no inclination to pay attention to critical comments addressed to it. The same issue which published an editorial hailing the Pravda article also contained a report of an open Party meeting of Moscow writers in which the newspaper in substance denied the criticism of its work and extolled its imaginary services. Yet it was precisely in the columns of Sovetskoye iskusstvo that the notorious "no-conflict" theory of dramaturgy was propagandized and affirmed.

The magazine Teatr [Theater] has for a long time suffered from serious shortcomings. In 1952 a few issues put out by the new editorial board have been published, but it is too early as yet to assess the work of this magazine. To judge by these first issues, we may hope that the magazine will become a truly militant organ of the Union of Soviet Writers and the Committee on Affairs of the Arts.

As yet Literaturnaya gazeta devotes little attention to dramatic criticism.

Pravda justly criticized the Secretariat of the Union of Soviet Writers for lack of attention to dramaturgy. ...

The work of the Committee on Affairs of the Arts was also justly criticized in the Pravda article.

The committee's reconstituted repertoire-editorial section has not yet become a genuine creative laboratory in which plays can mature and be improved, in which work goes on not only to eliminate individual, private errors but also to enrich plays with new artistic merits. If this work is to become genuinely creative, close contact must be established between the committee and the Union of Soviet Writers. Then the repertoire-editorial section will not issue plays that are weak, artificial

* [For other articles on dramaturgy see Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. IV, No. 8, pp. 7-10, No. 11, pp. 3-5, No. 13, pp. 14-17 and No. 14, pp. 8-10.]

or just hack work. At present such plays still come out of this section and are distributed to the theaters. ...

The task of the Union of Soviet Writers is to help the theaters and the Committee on Affairs of the Arts work with playwrights.

It is in vain that some of our writers maintain that the Committee on Affairs of the Arts must now not interfere with playwrights or the work of the theaters. The committee is a state agency responsible to the Party and the people for the theater repertoire; therefore active creative work with the playwrights is its prime duty. ...

We have everything we need to overcome the lag in dramaturgy. We need only remember that success never comes of its own accord. Each one of us Soviet playwrights is obliged to answer the Party's appeal with persistent creative work. ...

New Draft Curriculum for Elementary Schools

IN RUSSIAN REPUBLIC MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. (Uchitelskaya gazeta, May 24, p. 4. Complete text:) Recently the collegium of the Russian Republic Ministry of Education discussed a report by Prof. M. A. Melnikov, Vice-President of the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, on the new draft curriculum for elementary schools. The need for setting up a new curriculum has arisen in connection with the introduction of universal seven-year education in the country and the fact that the present curriculum, as experience has shown, is overloaded.

Scientific workers, teachers and methodologists took part in compiling the new draft curriculum. A special commission of 53 persons was set up by the Ministry of Education.

Before the introduction of universal seven-year education, Comrade Melnikov said, the elementary school had to some extent to give the child a complete elementary education. Now it is no longer faced with this task, and therefore elementary education can be given a preparatory character. In the first through fourth grades children should obtain a good grounding for further study in the fifth through seventh. Thus it is now possible to free the curriculum of subjects difficult for children and to change the system of teaching natural science, geography and history in the fourth grade, letting these subjects follow in the fifth grade of seven-year schools.

The curriculum in the Russian language is being based on a slightly different principle: grammatical theory is to be taught in combination with practical work. Material on composition and exposition is being put out under the headings of "Reading" and "Grammar and Spelling," and the heading "Composition and Exposition" will not be included in the curriculum. Study of effective speaking is to be included in the study of grammar and spelling. The grammar course is to be more systematic.

The arithmetic curriculum remains basically unchanged.

According to the draft curriculum, the facts of natural science, geography and history are to be given to the children in the form of lively stories and practical articles, which will be studied and mastered in explanatory lessons. In history it is proposed to give stories and articles expounding only the most important facts and events from the time of the ancient Slavs to our own day.

In natural science the subject of "The Human Body and Its Care" is being transferred from the third to the fourth grade. In general, children should be acquainted with the elementary requirements of sanitation and hygiene and taught habits which will go along with them throughout the four years of their elementary education. In geography pupils in the fourth grade will read stories and articles about the U.S.S.R. Practical work—field trips, object lessons, observation, experiment and work on school gardens—is also provided for. At the end of the sections on natural science, geography and history the curriculum gives an accurate indication of how much knowledge school children should acquire as a result of reading the stories and articles and doing practical work in these subjects.

A number of supplementary proposals were made by M. A. Melnikova, N. V. Naumov, V. M. Sirotkin, L. V. Dubrovina and others who spoke in the discussion.

The new curriculum will naturally call for new textbooks, and work on compiling them has begun. Nevertheless it is still early to talk about exactly when and how the elementary schools will switch to work on the new curriculum.

The collegium approved the draft of the new curriculum and entrusted the School Administration with completing it in final form in the near future.

Byzantine Studies, Turkey and Today's Politics

EXPOSE PSEUDOSCIENTIFIC INTERPRETATION OF THE TURKISH CONQUEST. (By Academician V. Struve and Master of History B. Goryanov. Literaturnaya gazeta, May 27, p. 2. 1700 words. Condensed text:) Byzantine studies are now one of the most reactionary branches of bourgeois historiography. Bourgeois Byzantine studies have harnessed themselves to the yoke of aggressive American-British imperialism; an "International Commission for Byzantine Research" has been set up under UNESCO. Reactionary bourgeois Byzantine scholars struggle tirelessly against progressive Soviet Byzantine studies, pouring forth slanderous fabrications about them and preaching pseudoscientific theories of the inferiority of the Slavic peoples, who played a decisive role in the history of Byzantium, as is shown in works by Soviet scholars.

In his report at the 17th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Comrade Stalin noted with what scorn the fascists (in whose footsteps their Anglo-American disciples are now following) view the Slavs, regarding them as an "inferior race." In the struggle against bourgeois scholars Soviet historians have shown the progressive role of the Slavs in the social and economic development of Byzantium. Soviet scholars have shown that the Slav peoples created their own original culture, defending it in the struggle against the ruling classes of Byzantium, and afterwards against the Ottoman Empire.

Bourgeois Byzantine scholars annually convene their international congresses in an atmosphere of great pomp. Members of bourgeois governments, diplomats and cardinals of the Vatican take part in their sessions. The value of these congresses is paltry. Candid preaching of cosmopolitanism and racism and slandering of Soviet historiography and that of the people's democracies are the real essence of their "scholarly work."

The antiscientific character of bourgeois Oriental and Byzantine studies was manifested especially vividly at the 22nd International Congress of Oriental Scholars, held in Istanbul in September, 1951. The congress had the aim of portraying Turkey, servant of the aggressive Anglo-American bloc, whose people are gasping in the vise of the "Marshall Plan," as the "cradle of civilization." The barbarous attitude of the Turkish authorities to precious Byzantine archeological monuments, which were thrown out as rubbish and destroyed, was revealed at the congress.

Bourgeois Byzantine scholars, who previously idealized Byzantium, are now changing sharply in deference to the Anglo-American aggressors; they are depicting Byzantium and other medieval states of Southeastern Europe as a bulwark of despotism and ecclesiastical obscurantism and aggression, are denying the growth of the progressive, original culture of these countries, and are distorting the history of popular movements. The bourgeois historians use all this to "demonstrate" the backwardness of Southeast European countries, which have embarked on the path of people's democracy and the building of socialism, and to contrast them with West European countries, where, allegedly, progressive ideas and the origins of contem-

porary bourgeois "democracy" arose as early as the Middle Ages.

They are seeking these progressive ideas in backward, feudal Turkey, which brutally oppressed conquered peoples.

Now bourgeois Oriental and Byzantine scholars are making intensive preparations to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the capture of Constantinople by the Osmanli Turks and the fall of Byzantium on May 29, 1953. It is planned to devote the current congress of Byzantine scholars to this event; preparations are under way for publication of a number of monographs and sources, special issues of scholarly journals dealing with Byzantine studies, etc. The reactionary essence of the unprecedented clamor raised in connection with the forthcoming "anniversary" lies in blackening the great historic role of the Slavic peoples, in proving their incapacity for independent political existence and the low level of their culture, which is allegedly only a copy of the culture of more developed nations. The Turkish conquest in the middle of the 15th century is depicted by bourgeois scholars as a boon for the Slav and other peoples of the Balkan Peninsula, which allegedly rallied these peoples politically, enriched them culturally and prepared them for independent existence. ...

The myth of the "boon" afforded the Slavic peoples by the Turks has nothing in common with science. The 15th-century Byzantine historians themselves draw a picture of the annihilation of populations of captured towns by the Turks, of the destruction and devastation of cultural monuments. In repeated statements about the Turkish conquest, the classic Marxist-Leninist writers have pointed to the intolerable yoke of the Ottoman Empire over the Slavic peoples. J. V. Stalin noted: "The Turkish assimilators—the most brutal of all assimilators—tortured and maimed the Balkan nations for hundreds of years, yet they not only did not bring about destruction of the latter, but found themselves compelled to capitulate."

The ruling classes of the military-feudal Ottoman Empire oppressed the masses and impeded the economic and cultural development of the Turkish and the vanquished Slavic peoples. Having created an artificial barrier, by which they fenced off the Balkan Peninsula from the whole of Europe, the Turks impeded the development of new production relations, preserving primitive techniques, a barter economy and the harsh exploitation of serfdom which are characteristic of the most backward forms of the feudal socio-economic system. The Turks regarded the subjugated Slavic peoples only as an object for unrestrained exploitation, scornfully calling them "raia" (herd).

Reactionary bourgeois Byzantine scholars are making use of the preparations for the 500th anniversary of the fall of Byzantium to direct attacks against the Soviet Union and the people's democracies. Thus, for example, in the bulletin of the Belgian Academy of Sciences Grégoire, the leader of the bourgeois Byzantine scholars, wrote recently that if someone from the East were to try now to capture Constantinople, the U.S.A. would not view this with the indifference with which the Western powers viewed the capture of Constantinople by the Osmanli Turks in 1453.

The very fact that the congress is being convoked in the capital of Marshallized Turkey shows that, on U.S. orders, this congress will be directed politically by the reactionary Pan-Turkish "school" of history. The anniversary which the reactionary bourgeois scholars wish to mark as a political demonstration against the Soviet Union and the people's democracies is being preceded by intensive indoctrination of public opinion. The pseudoscientific program of the congress camouflages the actual political aims, which have nothing in common with scholarship. These aims, in deference to the American imperialists, lie in raising the authority of Marshallized Turkey, to which the American warmongers are bent on allotting a special role in the Near Eastern branch of the Atlantic alliance and in the Mediterranean joint command under the aegis of the U.S.A.

Soviet Byzantine studies, which are based on the only scientific, Marxist-Leninist methodology, have scored great successes in resolving the most important problems of Byzantine history. In the light of Comrade Stalin's instructions Soviet scholars are studying the history of Byzantium as the history of the working masses, the history of the peoples. Their research is focused on such cardinal problems as the problem of the class struggle in Byzantine society, questions of the origin and characteristics of Byzantine feudalism, and of the influence of the Slavs on the history of Byzantium.

Soviet Byzantine scholars, Orientalists and Slavic scholars, developing advanced Marxist-Leninist historiography, must pit the only scientific interpretation of the Turkish conquest—the Marxist interpretation—against the pseudoscientific fabrications of bourgeois scholars; they must show the genuine nature of the Ottoman Empire, which oppressed and suppressed the Slavic peoples and the other peoples under it, and also the incessant, heroic struggle which these peoples waged against the oppressors, defending their high, original culture and striving for liberation from the grim Turkish yoke.

Expurgating Feudal Elements From a Folk Epic

CONCERNING THE EPIC POEM 'MANAS.' (By Medine Bogdanova. Literaturnaya gazeta, May 27, p. 2. 2700 words. Condensed text:) The Kirgiz branch of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences is calling a session of scholars to settle the question of the folk character of the Kirgiz epic poem "Manas." This is a great poetic landmark of a people who were illiterate until the great October socialist revolution, a people whose culture was chiefly reflected in oral poetry. This obliges us to be particularly principled and careful in our judgment of the epic poem.

Whereas it has not been long since the predominant tendency with regard to "Manas" was to idealize it and to ignore the antipopular aspects of the epic, another extreme has appeared of late among a number of scholars—the tendency to find only reactionary elements in this poem and on this basis to hasten to proclaim the epic an antipopular one.

In settling the question of "Manas" it is necessary to take into account the fact that there may be lapses into bourgeois nationalism in the form of deliberate attempts to defame the epic and thus create the impression that there is a desire to deprive the people of their cultural heritage.

In evaluating "Manas" as a product of oral art we should proceed from the Marxist-Leninist teaching on society, from a recognition of the people as the chief motive force in history, as the creator of all values, both material and spiritual. We should study the epic from the viewpoint of the Marxist-Leninist teaching on cultural tradition, the Leninist doctrine of two cultures in every national culture.

There is no clear-cut and single view on the epic "Manas."

A serious hindrance to correct interpretation of the epic is the completely one-sided character of the recordings of the "Manas" versions known to us. This is due to the tendentiousness which figured in the organization of the recording by bourgeois nationalists who succeeded for quite a long time in controlling this responsible work.

The result of this was that a considerable part of the recorded versions proved to be permeated with Pan-Islamic and Pan-Turkic ideas.

The reactionary character of the recording colored the contents of episodes from the epic "Manas" published in both Kirgiz and Russian.

However, the great and diverse poetic, historical and social material which is so richly represented in "Manas" gives us reason to believe that its chief and basic creator was the working people. In contrast to the songs of predatory raids by the Golden Horde in the epic "Edige," or to the epic poem "Dede Korkut"—epics which originated at the courts of the feudal-tribal aristocracy and were alien to the people, to their aspirations, their way of life, traditions and customs—"Manas" reflects the history of the people, the struggle which they carried on for many centuries against foreign usurpers and oppressors. The story of the epic is presented against a broad background

of everyday life. The epic portrays not just the military heroics of battles and campaigns, but the peacetime life of the people in all its vivid diversity—in the struggle with nature and in intricate everyday and social relationships.

One of the features of "Manas" is its many layers, the product of the various historical epochs through which the people lived and the various stages in development of attitudes to economy and society.

"Manas" is marked by many incidents and episodes which arose out of the people's experience of patriarchal-tribal attitudes. These attitudes are portrayed most sharply in the episodes of the miraculous birth and childhood of the hero, in episodes concerning the tribal conflicts, the gatherings of the clans for campaigns, and the tribal councils at which Manas discusses some of his campaigns.

The family-tribal, patriarchal theme runs through the entire epic and alternates with episodes which depict subsequent periods in the life of the people—the periods of disintegration of the patriarchal-tribal attitudes and the rise of feudal attitudes among the Kirgiz people. This explains some of the contradictions in interpreting the image of Manas, who appears to us as both a tribal leader and a feudal lord or terrible khan, and also as a fighter for truth.

The "Manas" epic itself, as epic poetry which absorbed diverse stories, legends and other national poetry, apparently could have arisen in one of the richly eventful periods in the life of the Kirgiz people, who had to engage in a series of wars to repel invasions by enemies.

Having established a connection with one historical event or another, one must remember that the "Manas" epic, like all epics, is not a chronicle which preserves real limits on historical incidents and events. "Manas" is mainly a poetic work in which the historical life of the people is reflected in broad, artistic generalizations on things typical and characteristic among the people for many years.

Therefore, it seems impossible to us to select one or another social or historical feature arbitrarily and study it as the basic theme of the entire epic.

It is also impossible to study the image of the epic figure of Manas as we study a single, complete character in written literature.

Frequently, in the variations, Manas appears variously, and acts and is evaluated in diverse ways.

The majority of the recordings of "Manas" known to us represent those which were strongly reworked under the influence of the Kirgiz feudal-tribal aristocracy. There are broad reflections in them of feudal-predatory ideas which were alien to the people, and also Pan-Islamic and Pan-Turkic ideas. The variations and episodes which originated and existed in the milieu of the people have not been studied up to the present. ...

The contradictions in the epic attest to the hostility of the class forces which sprang up around "Manas." The people, who had created their own versions from their interpretation of events, who had created their own image of the hero, did not accept reaction, which was alien to them. The people condemned the antipopular campaigns and wars of Manas, his antipopular actions and deeds, and punished the hero of the epic for them.

Thus, a number of facts attest to the popular basis of "Manas:" the portrayal of the centuries-long life of the people, of their mode of life, their customs and ways; the idea of the unity of the tribes and the trend against foreign enemies in the epic; the epic's reflection of the struggle with Mongols, Kalmuks and other usurpers. The ideas of patriotism noted in the epic attest to this; and finally, the wide distribution of the epic among the people supports it.

One piece of evidence supporting the popular basis of the epic is the very fact that the popular poetic genres revolved around a single hero. The most diverse genres of popular poetry have accumulated in "Manas."

The intensive changes and distortions of the basic plot in the "Manas" epic, one may assume, arose in the period when feudal attitudes were established among the Kirgiz people, which can be dated as the beginning of the 18th century. In this period, apparently, a more clear-cut division between the popular and feudal lines of the epic began. In the place of the old, traditional themes of self-defense and self-preservation, new ones began to form—themes of plunder. The epic is filled with motifs and episodes of internal, internecine, feudal wars. The hero takes on the characteristics of a feudal lord who wages campaigns to increase his wealth, his pasture lands and his herds.

The Islamization and the saturation of the epic's feudal versions with Pan-Turkic and Pan-Islamic ideas are undoubtedly closely related to the reactionary trend present among the Kirgiz and also the Kazakh tribal aristocracy from the 18th to the beginning of the 20th century, which was known in oral and written literature as the "zaman" trend. This trend, which merged with ideas of muridism and cultivated national enmity, attempted to dull class consciousness and preached a struggle between "believers" and "infidels." ...

From the history of world culture we know that among those peoples with writing systems and books, oral works—in particular the epic, which remained the property of the lower, illiterate classes—retained their democratic, progressive features to a greater extent than among peoples without writing systems. Among the Kirgiz people, owing to the absence of written literature, the ruling classes made extensive use of oral art, the epic, introducing their ideas and interpretation into it. Thus, "Manas" was performed in various social milieus and was interpreted in various ways. At the same time the version which emanated from the Bai-manap court and received its interpretation from this court also penetrated to the masses, exercising ideological influence upon them.

But is it possible on this basis to reject the epic? We think not. The epic "Manas" must be purged of alien and hostile layers of material and, after careful selection of its episodes and variations, it must be returned to the people in a combined version, such as the epic poem "David Sasun."

We know that, however beautiful the creations of the past may be, they cannot express all the wealth and magnitude of the present. The life of the people has been enriched by written literature, the most advanced, the most idea-rich literature in the world, a literature based on the principles of socialist realism. The old epic has been replaced by the new, the Soviet epic, extolling the heroism of our people, an epic which has absorbed and inherited the best poetic traditions of the past.

We must say, however, that there has long been an obvious tendency to overestimate the significance of the epic "Manas" in the development of Kirgiz Soviet literature and in the ideological education of the people. "Manas" was made the focus of the entire cultural and spiritual life of the Kirgiz people. In this connection for a long time completely false and defective arguments were heard to the effect that the heroism of the Kirgiz people and in particular the heroism displayed by the Kirgiz people in the days of the great patriotic war was the result of their education in the traditions of the heroic epic "Manas."

While valuing the epic "Manas" as a cultural monument of the past, we must be careful to see that it becomes accessible to the people in a form free of feudal and bourgeois nationalist distortions.

Expurgation of this epic poem by no means implies that it should be emasculated of its historical circumstances and the specific features in the life of the people which it contains, that the epic should be brought up to date. This would be a falsification. The expurgation of the epic should be strictly scientific and principled. It should take into account all the historical circumstances in the life of the people. And this demands a suitable selection of the variants, songs and episodes, a selection in which the fundamental principle must be preservation in the epic of all the best elements inherent in the past of the Kirgiz people.

The Career of a Confidence Man

(Feuilleton)—TALE OF A CONFIDENCE MAN AND SIMPLETONS. (By D. Belyayev. Pravda, June 2, p. 2. Complete text:)

If Vladimir Moiseyevich Bukhman comes into your office and announces: "I am the nephew of the minister"—don't believe him.

If he tells you confidentially that he is a friend and companion of all the judges and prosecutors in Moscow—don't believe him.

If he introduces himself as a military lawyer with higher military and legal education—don't believe him.

If he talks about his battle exploits during the patriotic war and, putting on an expression of suffering, declares he was wounded and shell-shocked and is a war invalid—don't believe him.

If Vladimir Moiseyevich Bukhman offers you documents in support of one or another of his statements—don't believe the documents, for they are false documents, as false as Bukhman's mean little soul. Be warned that it means nothing to Bukhman to forge even a certificate that he is the cousin of Garibaldi, grandson of the Decembrist Odoyevsky, and Anton Pavlovich Chekhov's own son.

If Bukhman appears in your institution accompanied by a group of high-ranking officers and if in chorus they extol the battle merits, the crystal-pure honor and the great talents of Bukhman—don't be surprised and don't believe them for they are all fakes.

Bukhman has indeed many "talents:" he is a perfect liar, he skillfully counterfeits documents and he throws dust in one's eyes to perfection. Once he showed up at the military commissariat in Moscow's Shcherbakov Borough escorted by an unknown general in uniform and played the following scene there:

Bukhman: "Let me introduce the deputy commander of the military district."

Staff Officer of the Military Commissariat: "At your service, Comrade General."

Unknown general: "Bukhman here has been offended. He's an irreproachable officer; I know him from duty at the front. I ask that this be considered."

Officer: "That what be considered, Comrade General?"

Unknown general: "Well, this matter, ahem—"

Bukhman: "They want to deprive me of a pension, Comrade General."

Unknown general: "What? Of a pension? This is an outrage! To insult a front-line fighter! I ask you—"

It turned out that the general, the very same deputy commander, like his friend Bukhman, is a son of Chekhov.

One must give credit to the personnel at the military commissariat. They were vigilant, saw through the false general and exposed Bukhman for a great number of falsities and forgeries.

But, alas, to our great mortification and sorrow, there are still many easy-going simpletons in our midst who are naive to the point of bewilderment and believe everything: Bukhman's stories, Bukhman's counterfeit documents and Bukhman's "generals." It is these simpletons whose carelessness fertilizes the soil which nurtures Bukhmans and similar people.

But let us turn to the actual biography of V. M. Bukhman. The particulars on Bukhman state that he was commissar of a communications regiment.

Bukhman was not a regimental commissar. At the time he was not a Party member.

From 1942 onward he regarded himself—and so did many officials and institutions—as an army lawyer, third class.

In actual fact Bukhman was a swindler, first class; the title of army lawyer had never been awarded him anywhere.

In his autobiographical representations Bukhman every now and then claimed he had been a front-line soldier, had seen action and been a patriotic participant in the war.

In actual fact he spent the war "bravely" shifting from one reserve to another, and in all contrived to put in 23 months in the reserves of various echelons. After this valiant service, while in Moscow, he counterfeited and juggled documents claiming disablement and obtained a pension.

Regarding his final status in the Soviet Army, he specified in his declarations that in 1945 he was a "U.S.S.R. state auditor."

His work in this contrived job was marked by the fact that, together with an accomplice, V. M. Krizhevsky, he obtained an important mission with the aid of forged and counterfeited documents, and engaged in speculation in trucks.

He got into trouble over this and was sentenced by a Soviet court.

But you marvel when you read the following in the sentence: "Bukhman, who held no job, acquired, by means not established, a blank travel pass with the seal of a military unit."

Through whose credulity did Bukhman obtain a blank travel pass?

Evidently neither the investigators nor the judges gave any thought to this point.

For the travel pass affair Bukhman was sentenced to three years' imprisonment. Within a year, however, he was again at large.

Evidently fascinated by the condemned criminal's abundant legal experience, the directors of certain institutions hastened to invite Bukhman to work for them. He was senior legal adviser in the Moscow Construction Mechanization Trust; he was a legal adviser at the Lumber Industry Supply Administration's central depot, in the Ministry of the Lumber Industry's Building and Assembly Office and at Mental Hospital No. 2. The Moscow Machine Technology Institute invited him to lecture and conduct examinations in a course entitled "The Principles of Soviet Law."

And apparently no one among the personnel and supervisors of these respected institutions found time even to read or think about the illiterate and confused lies in Bukhman's documents.

Comrade Shablya, personnel inspector for the Construction Mechanization Trust, was so moved by the "legal adviser's" work that he went into raptures and gave Bukhman a splendid reference. Bukhman, he said, "is politically educated, full of initiative, and exacting."

And here is what surprised and moved Comrade Shablya: "Bukhman comes to conclusions quickly and correctly, he draws up contracts efficiently and even dictates statements of claims to a typist without even a rough draft." This is what Comrade Shablya wrote in a letter of recommendation given to Bukhman in December, 1951.

It never occurred to that simpleton Shablya that Bukhman could not have done otherwise, since he is ignorant of grammar and does not know how to write a single sentence correctly in his own hand.

And Comrade Shablya had forgotten that six months earlier he, as chairman of the trade union local, had signed an entirely different statement about Bukhman, which stated: "At work Bukhman showed himself to be lacking in discipline and careless—the work in the legal department is in a state of neglect. He has had a number of reprimands for an irresponsible attitude to his work," etc., etc.

Oh Shablya, Shablya, what the Bukhmans will be up to when the Shablyas are asleep!

And now here is a most unbelievable and, alas, true episode in Bukhman's history.

He was sentenced in 1946—with a Party card in his pocket.

He came out of prison—with a Party card in his pocket.

After this he paid membership dues to the Lublin Party organization—for a full year in advance.

Chatsky, as is common knowledge, went straight from the ship to a ball. Bukhman went straight from prison to the Academy of Medical Sciences. Yes! In the respected academy there were also Shablyas, who hired him as head of the Supply Department, no more, no less.

In 1948, on outside warnings, the Party organization of the Academy of Medical Sciences expelled Bukhman from the Party.

(Continued on Page 38)

Plenary Session of Central Council of Trade Unions

DECISIONS OF EIGHTH PLENARY SESSION OF CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS. (Trud, June 11, p. 2. Complete text:) The eighth plenary session of the Central Council of Trade Unions, held the other day, took up the following questions:

1. Improving medical services for the workers and employees of industrial enterprises.

2. Progress in fulfilling the 1952 plan for housing and construction for cultural and everyday needs [schools, clubs, libraries, hospitals, offices, shops and service establishments] by ministries and departments, and improving checkup by trade union organizations on such construction.

3. The work of trade union and economic agencies of the transport machinery industry in further strengthening labor discipline.

The session adopted resolutions on the questions discussed.

I.—On the question of improving medical services for the workers and employees of industrial enterprises, the Central Council of Trade Unions plenary session noted that constant concern is displayed for the health of the working people in our country. Public health appropriations increase annually. The network of hospitals, polyclinics, dispensaries and maternity homes is expanding constantly. As a result of the growth of the well-being of the people and the achievements of Soviet medicine, many diseases have been eliminated and the sickness rate from malaria, tuberculosis and occupational diseases is being lowered.

At the same time the session noted shortcomings in the preventive and curative work of medical institutions in some industrial enterprises. The public health agencies and economic and trade union organizations do not make use of all available opportunities for further reduction of the sickness rate and improvement of medical services for the working people. In a number of instances the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Public Health and the industrial ministries do not satisfactorily fulfill the plans for construction of medical institutions. The trade union agencies still exercise weak control over medical services for the working people, they do not strive for elimination of the shortcomings still existing in labor protection, safety aids and industrial sanitation.

For further improvement of medical services for the workers and employees of industrial enterprises, the session held it necessary for public health agencies to take measures to eliminate shortcomings in the work of the medical institutions serving the workers and employees of industrial enterprises, especially dispensaries and polyclinics; to raise the quality of work of hospitals, polyclinics, dispensaries, maternity homes and medical units; to improve medical services for those working on evening and night shifts; to make a greater effort to introduce the latest achievements of medical science in the practical work of medical institutions; to show systematic concern for raising the qualifications of doctors and medical personnel; to ensure uninterrupted supply of the pharmaceutical network and medical institutions with medicines, dressings and the necessary apparatus and instruments.

The ministries, departments and heads of enterprises must ensure fulfillment of all the obligations in collective [labor-management] contracts for improving working conditions, safety aids and industrial sanitation; and afford assistance to public health agencies in repairing buildings and premises occupied by medical institutions in the enterprises. The trade union organizations must intensify checkup on fulfillment of the obligations of economic agencies for construction, repair and equipping of hospitals, polyclinics, health centers, nurseries, kindergartens and public health buildings. The session directed the trade union organizations to see to it that the heads of enterprises abide by the legislation for protection of mother and child.

The session set the public health agencies and trade union organizations the task of expanding health education among workers and employees for averting and reducing sickness; of organizing exhibits, holding lectures and talks on health and hygiene and showing health education films.

The Central Council of Trade Unions Central Administration for Health Resorts, Sanatoriums and Rest Homes and the central committees of the trade unions, together with the public health agencies, must also improve the organization of medical work in sanatoriums and rest homes.

II.—The resolution of the plenary session on progress in fulfilling the 1952 plan for housing and construction for cultural and everyday needs by ministries and departments and improving checkup by trade union organizations notes that, thanks to the constant concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet government for improving the material well-being of the working people and the raising of their cultural standard, construction of housing, children's and medical institutions, schools, clubs and public service and trade enterprises is increasing from year to year.

In 1951 a number of ministries and departments overfulfilled the plans for putting new housing into commission and fulfilled the plan for the first quarter of 1952. At the same time the session criticized the work of ministries and departments which did not fulfill the plan for housing and construction for cultural and everyday needs.

The session noted that nonfulfillment of the plan for housing and construction for cultural and everyday needs by a number of ministries and departments is the result of their lack of attention to this matter, of bad organization of labor on many construction projects, of inadequate introduction of high-speed assembly-line methods of production.

In many instances the trade union organizations exercise weak direction of the socialist competition among the builders, do not exercise satisfactory control over the progress and quality of the construction work, do not display persistence in disclosing and eliminating the causes that hold up the construction work.

The session held it necessary for the ministries and departments to devise and carry out concrete measures to ensure fulfillment of the plan for housing and construction for cultural and everyday needs by every trust, building administration and construction project.

The central, republic, territory, province, factory and project committees and trade union councils are asked to develop wider socialist competition of builders for fulfillment of the plans on each site, for pre-schedule opening of new houses, clubs, schools, hospitals, kindergartens, nurseries, shops, restaurants, bathhouses, laundries and other institutions, for further improving quality and reducing unit cost of construction; to strive for raising the level of mechanization of construction work, for introduction of industrial methods of construction and overall economies of building materials; to take measures to spread advanced experience of innovator-builders.

The trade union organizations have been set the task of establishing unrelaxing checkup on the construction of houses, cultural-welfare and children's institutions, and improving the work of the housing commissions of the factory and province trade union committees.

The session directed the trade union organizations to devote greater attention to improving housing and welfare conditions for the builders, to take measures to improve the political education and mass cultural work among the builders and to extend technical study among them.

III.—In the resolution on the work of trade union and economic agencies of the transport machinery industry in further strengthening labor discipline, the session asked the trade union and economic organizations of the transport machinery industry to eliminate shortcomings existing in the process of further strengthening of labor discipline, to intensify work for the education of workers and employees in the spirit of the communist attitude to work, and to develop wider socialist competition, which is a most important means for the communist education of the working people.

The session drew the attention of the Ministry of the Transport Machinery Industry to the necessity of raising the responsibility of heads of enterprises for the state of labor discipline, of directing them to eliminate shortcomings in the organization of labor, of conducting a vigorous struggle against last-minute rush tactics in work, of liquidating stoppages and wasteful losses of working time.

The session asked heads of the economic and trade union organizations to show more concern for improving housing and welfare conditions and for satisfying the cultural demands of the working people. The session held it necessary for the trade union and economic organizations to increase their concern for young workers who have graduated from trade schools and factory training schools, to create the necessary welfare conditions for them, to assist them in the swiftest possible mastering of their trades and of advanced methods of work.

Trade union factory committees are asked to enlist the trade union aktiv more widely in mass explanatory work for strengthening labor discipline and cultivation of a communist attitude to labor, and to make better use of the cultural institutions of the trade unions, of wall newspapers and of factory radio broadcasting.

The participants in the eighth plenary session of the Central Council of Trade Unions enthusiastically adopted greetings to the great leader and teacher of the working people, Comrade J. V. Stalin.

A Soviet Cookbook for the Busy Housewife

The Bookshelf: A GIFT TO THE FAMILY. (By V. Sokolov. Literaturnaya gazeta, May 22, p. 2. Complete text:) At first glance this appears to be an ordinary cookbook. What are you told here besides how to make jellied fish or cauliflower soup?

The intelligent, carefully compiled and excellently edited book before us is by no means confined to recipes.

"A Book on Appetizing and Healthful Food" * takes into consideration the high level of our trade and our food industry; it is written for Soviet women who, as a rule, combine housework with jobs and community activities.

"In the cities homemade bread has been replaced by factory-made bread. Fine sausages from the meat combines far surpass the formerly homemade sausages. Factory jams have completely replaced homemade jams. Ready-made and frozen meat dumplings liberate the housewife from the time-consuming bother of preparing them. Various canned and semiprepared foods enjoy greater and greater popularity," the authors of this book correctly assert, concluding from this that "the further development of the food industry must soon ensure women's almost complete emancipation from hard work in the kitchen."

From the general advice that "use of semiprepared foods and canned goods considerably hastens the preparation of dinner" to the suggested sample menus for every day of the week and all times of the year, all the advice here helps the housewife save her time. The authors, moreover, warn that "an indifferent, careless attitude toward diet is not in the least desirable. Do not neglect either your own or your family's diet." The authors opportunely and tactfully criticize the negligent housewife who has several dishes which she alternates and serves over and over again for several years. The family gets monotonous food.

The authors of "A Book on Appetizing and Healthful Food" do not overindulge in recipes for fancy dishes; they orient their work toward the ordinary family table.

The young housewife will not overlook the instructions offered in the margins of the book:

"To keep bread fresh, keep it in a covered porcelain or enamel dish."

"Separate knives from other metal objects. Knife blades are quickly dulled by contact with forks, spoons, etc."

The inexperienced housewife will turn more than once to the book for precise information on how much sugar a teaspoon holds or how to take wine stains out of tablecloths.

The book has recipes for preparing a quick dinner and advice on how to set a banquet table.

The value of this book lies in its serious, scientific basis. The editors, Prof. O. Molchanova, Prof. D. Lobanov, M. Lifshits and N. Tsyplenkov, not only simply and clearly tell the reader the importance of correct organization of the diet, but they also suggest the necessary diet for sick persons and for nursing mothers.

"A Book on Appetizing and Healthful Food" is devoted to a serious aspect of our life—diet—and it deals with this question in a businesslike way, taking into account the constantly improving well-being of Soviet citizens. Herein lies its unquestioned merit.

* [For articles on the need for books on healthful diet see Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, Nos. 34 and 43.]

World Politics

UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT BY MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF CHINESE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. (Pravda and Izvestia, May 21, p. 4. 600 words. Condensed text:) Peking (Tass)—Hsinhua has reported a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Central People's Government of the Chinese People's Republic, which reads:

The report made by the U.S. government representative May 5, 1952, at the U.N. Economic and Social Council's Narcotic Drugs Commission slandering the government of the Chinese People's Republic with the allegation that it is engaged in the illegal sale of heroin to Japan is a groundless lie from beginning to end. ...

The U.S. representative's malicious slander against the Chinese People's Republic is a shameless instance of spreading false rumors, with which the U.S. government attempts to conceal that it is continuing its own policy of distributing narcotics. Particularly since world public opinion has sharply condemned the germ warfare launched by the American aggressive forces to wreak damage on the Chinese and Korean peoples, the U.S. government has attempted to distract the world's attention by fabrications. However, such deceit will yield no results and will not be able to deceive the honest people of the world. ...

IN U.N. TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL. (Trud, May 25, p. 4. Complete text:) New York (Tass)—Each year a greater number of petitions arrives at the Trusteeship Council concerning the exceptionally oppressive condition of the native populations in the Trust Territories, which the colonial powers doom to complete deprivation of rights, poverty and extinction.

More than 300 petitions were to be considered by the Trusteeship Council's tenth session, which was held in March, 1952. Under pressure of the U.S.A., Britain and France, consideration of these petitions was postponed until the eleventh session. In the period between sessions the U.N. Trusteeship Council's Standing Committee on Petitions of the inhabitants of the Trust Territories met and undertook the review of about 200 petitions which had arrived from Somaliland. The Standing Committee on Petitions met from May 5 to May 22.

At the very first meetings of the committee, representatives of the colonial powers responsible for administering the Trust Territories—the U.S.A., Australia and New Zealand—made efforts to prevent consideration of the most important petitions, which unmasked the antidemocratic policy of the administering authorities and their gross violation of the rights and interests of the indigenous inhabitants. However, at the insistence of the U.S.S.R. representative A. Soldatov, the committee was obliged to consider the petitions.

During consideration of the petitions, the Soviet representative, on the basis of concrete facts in the petitions, demonstrated the colonial character of the policy of the Italian authorities in the Trust Territory, the gross violation of the U.N. Charter and of the trusteeship agreement by the administering authority, and he introduced several proposals to ameliorate the exceptionally oppressive condition of the indigenous population, to satisfy the petitions which requested the return of alienated lands and to abolish the antidemocratic policy. The Soviet representative also proposed that the Trusteeship Council recommend that the administering authority set aside means for satisfying the needs of the indigenous population in public health and education.

FAR EAST

Indonesia

U.S.A. ATTEMPTS TO DRAW INDONESIA INTO ITS AGGRESSIVE PLANS. (Pravda, May 21, p. 4. Complete text:) Jakarta (Tass)—The debate continues in the Indonesian Parliament on the program of the new government formed by Wilopo. Many Deputies are criticizing the government because it has not defined its position on the question of American "aid" under the Mutual Security Act of 1951 and are demanding that such "aid" be rejected.

Sunario, Deputy from the Indonesian National Party, declared that his party is against the "aid" agreement concluded between former Indonesian Minister for Foreign Affairs Subarjo and the American Ambassador Cochran, since the aims of this document are nothing more than to draw Indonesia into the American aggressive plans. Mohammed Yamin, an independent Deputy, said that accepting American "aid" under the above-mentioned law is equivalent to Indonesia's annexation by the "U.S. bloc." Second Vice-Chairman of Parliament Tambunan stressed that Indonesia should not accept any aid involving any political obligations. Indonesia, he said, should establish good relations with all countries, including the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic.

The newspaper Harian Rakjat states in regard to the Parliamentary debate that "American 'aid' cannot be separated from U.S. military aspirations." Acceptance of American "aid," the newspaper declares, purports a direct threat to Indonesian independence.

Korea

(Editorial)—AGAINST AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS' BLOODY CRIMES! (Izvestia, May 21, p. 1. 1300 words. Condensed text:) ... The things which the American interventionists are doing to the Koje Island prisoners of war increase the long list of crimes which they have committed during the two years of the Korean intervention. Their cynical violation of the Geneva Convention on prisoners of war has finally exposed the brutal face of the American imperialists to hundreds of millions of people in all corners of the world. ...

The American interventionists decided to avenge their defeats in Korea by increased criminal actions against the peaceful Korean population. They burned whole villages with napalm bombs. Then the American imperialists resorted to a new, unheard-of crime: they began to use banned, barbarous germ weapons. ...

A public statement was recently made by the head of the U.S. Army Chemical Corps Maj. Gen. Ballen. This misanthropist in a general's uniform praised bacteriological weapons in every way as a means of mass destruction of human beings which would leave property, buildings, etc., untouched. After this, what is the value of all the hypocritical proclamations by U.S. government representatives who have not yet condemned either chemical or bacteriological weapons?

The bloody reprisals against the Korean and Chinese P.O.W.s on Koje Island and in Pusan show once more that the American imperialists need lies and hypocritical statements about "humaneness" and "civilization" to conceal their crimes.

It is known that the American side chose the question of repatriating P.O.W.s as one of the pretexts for dragging out the talks on a truce and cease-fire in Korea. It has now become known that behind this there was concealed an attempt by the American interventionists to detain P.O.W.s by force and enlist them in the armies of the hirelings Syngman Rhee and Chiang Kai-shek in order to use them in bloody new adventures against the Korean, Chinese and other peoples of Asia. In order to achieve these infamous aims the American Hitlerites have resorted to the most inhuman methods of dealing with the P.O.W.s. ...

The facts about the bloody crimes of the American aggressors on Koje Island are so outrageous that even certain bourgeois newspapers and news services have been obliged to admit them. Thus, a UP correspondent at Koje Island writes that this "collecting center for the camps" has become "an island of horrors" and that "tortures and murders fill the daily life of the prisoners with horror." What could be more definite than this recommendation of the American humanity haters, who try to shield themselves from the anger of the peoples by babble about "humaneness!"

The anger aroused by the bloody crimes of the American imperialists is spreading among ever more millions of ordinary people, who see in the brutalities of the American intervention-

ists in Korea a direct threat to their countries, their homes and their families. In answer to the flagrant crimes of the American aggressors, the peoples of all countries are increasing their vigilance toward the intrigues of the American warmongers, are rallying their ranks even more and are intensifying the struggle to maintain and strengthen peace.

Thailand

U.S.A. MAKES THAILAND ITS MILITARY BASE. (Trud, May 24, p. 4. Complete text:) New Delhi (Tass)—According to reports in the Thailand press, American instructors are training the army of Thailand. The Bangkok Post and Liberty report that American military instructors are preparing rifle and machine-gun units for dispatch to Korea to participate in the U.S. intervention against the Korean people.

The press also notes that American armaments continue to arrive in Thailand. During April, according to the newspaper Chung Yuan Pao, three shipments of American armaments arrived in Thailand on the ships the Flier, the Ellison and the Roosevelt. Arrival of a new shipment of armaments from the U.S.A. is expected in May. As the press states, the U.S.A. is stepping up converting Thailand into a base for aggression against the peoples of Asia.

Viet Nam

VIET NAM PEOPLE FRUSTRATE IMPERIALISTS' PLANS. (By V. Osipov. Izvestia, May 23, p. 3. 2000 words. Condensed text:) The defeats of the French colonizers in Viet Nam and the intensified liberation struggle of the people are causing the imperialists ever greater concern. This concern is fully understandable. The liberation struggle of the Viet Nam people and the successes of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam are dealing a heavy blow to the system of imperialism in this region. The final expulsion from Indo-China of the French imperialists would mean not only the collapse of their colonial plans, but would also deprive the American aggressors of an important springboard for aggression against China, and would still further undermine the already precarious positions of Britain in Malaya and Burma.

The Alsop brothers, the reactionary American journalists, wrote not so long ago in the New York Herald Tribune that the withdrawal of the French from Indo-China will mean the "beginning of a chain reaction." "And even if we succeed in breaking the chain reaction in Malaya," they continue, "the loss of Indo-China, Siam and Burma will mean something close to defeat in the cold war." "Any failure or retreat from Indo-China," the British Daily Telegraph and Morning Post echoes its American colleagues, "would have immediate repercussions in Malaya and in the final analysis would make our position in Malaya untenable."

That is why the ruling circles of the U.S.A. and Britain consider Indo-China a decisive sector "on the front" of Southeast Asia, to retain which is, in the opinion of the same Daily Telegraph and Morning Post, for the Americans and the British "just as important as for the French." That is why the American imperialists are making persistent efforts in order to save the position of the French colonizers in Viet Nam at all costs. ...

The Americans are playing an ever greater leadership role in Indo-China and the leadership of French forces is, in fact, being carried out by the American military mission of Gen. Brink.

This is mentioned candidly in a "confidential" statement published by Foreign Report, a bulletin of the London Economist. "The American Department of Defense," this statement runs, "is at present asserting that since the interests of American security in Southeast Asia are greater than France's interests, American policy in this region must predominate."

And although France no longer receives rice or coal from Indo-China and French businessmen are liquidating their enterprises there and a large part of the capital invested earlier in Indo-China has gone to other countries, although the war in Viet Nam is turning more and more into an American war waged by the French, despite all this, the French colonizers are obediently following all the instructions of their American advisers.

On Nov. 10, 1951, according to a plan drawn up by Gen. de Lattre de Tassigny jointly with the leaders of the American military mission, the French forces undertook a large-scale military operation in North Viet Nam directed against the town of Hoabinh. The words of a French Army representative, who stated at the beginning of January that "the outcome of the battle for Hoabinh can decide the whole course of the war in Indo-China," are quite expressive of the significance which is attached to this attack by the French-American interventionists. Hoabinh really occupies an important strategic position connecting Northern Viet Nam with the central and southern areas of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia.

By concentrating 23 battalions for the attack on the town and thus securing for itself supremacy in manpower and materiel, the French command calculated to encircle the units of the People's Army in Hoabinh in an unexpected thrust and annihilate them. The French command did not, however, succeed in carrying out its plan. It is true that in time Hoabinh was taken, but by Feb. 23 it was once again in the hands of the republic's forces. The British Daily Mail was compelled to admit that "the decisive offensive which the late Gen. de Lattre de Tassigny mounted in November, 1951, has collapsed, and the French are again in their initial positions but are now considerably weaker than formerly." ...

Inspired by the latest successes, units of the People's Army continue offensive operations and are fighting engagements against the French defense belt around Hanoi. They have advanced 13 kilometers toward the city from its northeastern side and also to within 30 kilometers of Gua and are in the Reed Valley.

The building of a new life, which has developed extensively in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, is strengthening the faith of the population of occupied areas, where the people are oppressed by the puppet authorites of the "Emperor" Bao Dai, in the fact that the hour of liberation for all Viet Namese is close.

The latest defeats of the French forces show once more the complete hopelessness of the imperialists' plans in Viet Nam. Nevertheless, contrary to common sense, the French ruling circles see a way out of the situation which has arisen not in cessation but in continuation of the war. Just a few days ago Letourneau, the new French High Commissioner in Indo-China, stated that France "will continue to do its part in Indo-China and will carry the burden of sacrifices." Pinay, the French Premier, De Waarheid reports, "intends to insist on quick supplies of arms for Indo-China from Washington."

The French colonizers are sending fresh forces to Viet Nam; are increasing the so-called "national" army of their puppet Bao Dai to 120,000 men; are intensifying repression in the occupied areas still more and are using the "experience" of the butcher of the Malayan people, Gen. Templer, with whom they have established close relations via the Commissioner-General of Britain in Southeast Asia.

The guiding hand of the American imperialists is visible in all these measures. AP correspondent Hightower reports from Washington that the U.S.A. is prepared to grant France an initial $600,000,000 for the remainder of the current fiscal year ending June 30. Talks continue between the general staffs of France, America and Britain on coordinating operations of the three powers in Southeast Asia. What these "coordinated operations" will consist of in relation to Viet Nam can be surmised from a frank statement by the inveterate warmonger John Foster Dulles. Speaking recently in Paris, Dulles appealed for the unleashing of united aggression by the imperialist powers in Indo-China "under U.N. leadership."

There is no doubt, however, that these plans of the U.S., French and British imperialists are also doomed to failure. This is guaranteed by the increasing opposition of the Viet Nam people and the support which all the peace-loving peoples of the world, including the French people, give them.

EASTERN EUROPE

Albania

SPECIAL SESSION OF ALBANIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. (Pravda, May 21, p. 3. Complete text:) Tirana (Tass)—A special session of the National Assembly of the Albanian People's Republic opened May 19 in Tirana.

Spiro Koleka, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, re-

ported on the first five-year plan for developing the Albanian national economy. He pointed out that drawing up the first five-year plan in Albania is a further step along the path of laying the foundations for socialism. This has become possible as a result of the fraternal and disinterested aid of the Soviet Union and also of the people's democracies.

Spiro Koleka next dwelt on basic subdivisions of the plan. The total volume of capital investments for the 1951-1955 five-year plan is to reach 21,000,000,000 leks, more than trebling capital investments for the period from 1946 through 1950. By the end of the five-year plan industrial production is to increase 3.4 times in comparison with 1950 and 12 times compared with the prewar period.

The gross agricultural output for the five-year plan is to increase 71% in comparison with 1950, or to almost 2.5 times the prewar level.

The well-being of the working people is to increase considerably. Consumption of basic food products and manufactured goods is to rise to 1.5 to two times the 1950 level.

The session will last several days and will pass a law on the first five-year plan for developing Albania's national economy for 1951-1955.

IN ALBANIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. (Pravda, May 22, p. 3. 400 words. Excerpts:) Tirana (Tass) The bill on the five-year plan for developing Albania's national economy during 1951-1955 was discussed at the May 20 and May 21 meetings of the National Assembly's special session. ...

Rapo Dervisi, Minister of Construction, spoke on the wide scope of construction work provided for by the five-year plan. The volume of construction will be more than three times that done during the preceding five years. ...

Tuk Iakova, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, spoke during the discussion and described the growth in the national economy, stressing that during the five-year plan it will double in comparison with the preceding five years and that the basic part of it will consist of income from the socialist sector. Income from this sector will treble by the end of the five-year plan. ...

ALBANIA'S FIRST FIVE-YEAR PLAN. (By Spiro Koleka, Member of Politburo of Albanian Workers' Party Central Committee. Pravda, May 25, p. 3. 2000 words. Excerpts:) The Second Congress of the Albanian Workers' Party, expressing the will of the workers, peasants and intelligentsia of the country, has worked out the tasks for the first five-year plan in developing Albania's national economy for 1951-1955. A special session of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Albania, which was held recently, confirmed the law on the first Albanian five-year plan.

Comrade Enver Hoxha, leader of the Albanian people, pointed out that the basic political task of the five-year plan consists in strengthening the alliance between the working class and the peasants and strengthening the leading role of the working class in this alliance, in restricting capitalist speculative elements in cities and the countryside and raising the cultural level of the working masses, in heightening the socialist consciousness of the working class, the revolutionary vigilance and patriotism of the working masses. The basic economic task of the five-year plan is to lay the economic foundations for socialism at a more rapid pace than up to the present, so that by the end of the five-year plan Albania may be turned from a backward agrarian country into an agrarian-industrial country.

The rapid growth of home industry will bring about a considerable reduction in imports; the public will have a more regular supply of manufactured goods; the disproportion which exists today between the prices of manufactured goods and agricultural produce will be narrowed; Albanian exports will rise rapidly.

The development of agriculture will also be increased. The country will be better provided with its own grain; this will enable grain imports to be substantially decreased; light industry will obtain essential raw materials in sufficient quantity; the number and productivity of livestock will increase. ...

There is no doubt that the Albanian people, guided by Comrade Enver Hoxha, with the constant and tremendous support of the glorious Soviet people and of the great Stalin, and also with the fraternal aid of the people's democracies, will successfully carry out the tasks of its first five-year plan.

Recently our people successfully completed construction of such extremely important projects as the J. V. Stalin Textile Combine, a sugar factory in Malik, the V. I. Lenin Hydroelectric Station, a cotton-ginning factory in Fieri, a wood-working combine in Elbasan, a rice-processing factory in Vlora, and a radio station in Tirana. ...

Poland

PROTOCOL BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE POLISH REPUBLIC ON AMENDMENTS TO THE SOVIET-POLISH STATE BORDER REGIME AND TO THE CONVENTION ON METHODS OF SETTLING BORDER CONFLICTS AND INCIDENTS, SIGNED IN MOSCOW JULY 8, 1948. (Vedomosti Verkhovnovo Soveta SSSR, May 20, p. 4. Complete text:) The government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, party of the first part, and the government of the Polish Republic, party of the second, noting the fact that the demarcation of the Soviet-Polish state boundaries carried out under the Feb. 15, 1951, Treaty on Interchange of Parts of State Territories, involves certain changes in the Treaty on the Soviet-Polish State Border Regime and the Convention on Methods of Settling Border Conflicts and Incidents, signed in Moscow July 8, 1948, and also in the protocols to the above-mentioned treaty and convention, have resolved to conclude the present protocol, for which they have named their representatives:

For the government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics —Victor Semyonovich Kozlov, Chairman of the Soviet Delegation to the Mixed Soviet-Polish Commission for Demarcation of the State Boundary Between the U.S.S.R. and the Polish Republic;

For the government of the Polish Republic—Dr. Aleksandr Zaruk-Michalski, Chairman of the Polish Delegation to the Mixed Soviet-Polish Commission for Demarcation of the State Boundary Between the U.S.S.R. and the Polish Republic,

who, after mutual presentation of their credentials, which were in the proper form and in complete order, have agreed upon the following:

I. Amendments to the Treaty on the Border Regime.—1. Article I, Section One, is amended to read as follows:

"The line of the state boundary between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Polish Republic, established by the Aug. 16, 1945, Treaty Between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Polish Republic on the Soviet-Polish State Boundary, and the Feb. 15, 1951, Treaty Between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Polish Republic on Interchange of Parts of State Territories, runs in the manner defined in the demarcation documents signed April 30, 1947, in Warsaw, by the Mixed Soviet-Polish Commission on Demarcation of the State Boundary, and in the region of the exchanged parts of U.S.S.R. and Polish state territories, as defined in the demarcation documents signed Oct. 23, 1951, also in Warsaw, by the Mixed Soviet-Polish Commission for Demarcation of the Boundary Between the U.S.S.R. and the Polish Republic.

"This line is designated in this treaty by the word 'boundary' or 'boundary line.' "

2. The section of the protocol on conclusion of the Treaty on the Soviet-Polish State Border Regime, entitled "Supplement to Article I of the Treaty" is amended to read as follows:

"1. The demarcation documents consist of the following:

"(a) The protocol drawn up in demarcating the boundary between the U.S.S.R. and the Polish Republic in 1946-1947, describing the state boundary line between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Polish Republic from the Kremenets border marker placed at the junction of the boundaries of the U.S.S.R., Poland and Czechoslovakia, to border marker No. 350, from border marker No. 472 to border marker No. 700 and from border marker No. 860 to border marker No. 1987, placed at the junction of the boundaries of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic, the former East Prussia (now Kaliningrad Province in the Russian Republic) and the Polish Republic;

"and the protocol drawn up in demarcating the boundary between the U.S.S.R. and the Polish Republic in 1951, describing the state boundary line between the Union of Soviet Socialist

Republics and the Polish Republic from border marker No. 350, through border markers No. 351-A to No. 432-A, inclusive, to border marker No. 472 and from border marker No. 700, through border markers No. 701-B to No. 859-B, inclusive, to border marker No. 860.

"(b) The maps of the boundary between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Polish Republic, drawn up in demarcating the state boundary in 1946-1947 and in 1951.

"(c) The border-marker protocols with sketch-maps and with photographs of border markers on the back, drawn up in the 1946-1947 boundary demarcation, from the Kremenets border marker to border marker No. 360, from border marker No. 472 to border marker No. 700 and from border marker No. 860 to border marker No. 1987;

"and border-marker protocols with sketch-maps on the back, drawn up in the 1951 boundary demarcation, on border marker No. 350, border markers No. 351-A to No. 432-A, inclusive, and on border marker No. 472, on border marker No. 700, border markers No. 701-B to No. 859-B, inclusive, and on border marker No. 860;

"and also the corresponding appendices and supplements to them."

II. Amendments to the Convention on Methods of Settling Border Conflicts and Incidents.—(1) The preamble to the Convention on Methods for Settling Border Conflicts and Incidents is amended to read as follows:

"The government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the government of the Polish Republic, desiring to avert conflicts and incidents on the border established by the Aug. 16, 1945, Treaty Between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Polish Republic on the Soviet-Polish State Boundary and the Feb. 15, 1951, Treaty Between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Polish Republic on Interchange of Parts of State Territories, and, in case of their occurrence, to assure rapid investigation and settlement of the same, have resolved for that end to conclude the present convention and named their representatives, who, after presentation of their credentials, which were in order and in the proper form, have agreed upon the following:"

(2) Sections One and Two of the protocol to the Convention on Methods of Settling Border Conflicts and Incidents, concerning the place of residence of the frontier authorities on the side of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is amended to read as follows:

"1. The frontier representative in the Lvov sector, with permanent residence in the town of Mostiska: jurisdiction to extend from the Kremenets border marker (at the junction with the Czechoslovak border) to buoy marker No. 350, established in the 1946-1947 boundary demarcation, continuing from border marker No. 351-A to border marker No. 432-A, established in the 1951 boundary demarcation, and from border marker No. 472 to border marker No. 672 (at the Jaroslaw-Rava Russkaya Railroad), established in the 1946-1947 boundary demarcation.

"2. The frontier representative in the Lyubomol sector, with permanent residence in the city of Lyubomol: jurisdiction to extend from border marker No. 673 (at the Jaroslaw-Rava Russkaya Railroad) to border marker No. 700, established in the 1946-1947 boundary demarcation, continuing from border marker No. 701-B to border marker No. 859-B, established in the 1951 boundary demarcation, and from border marker No. 860 to border marker No. 1122 (at the town of Orkhovo, south of the city of Wlodawa), established in the 1946-1947 border demarcation."

(3) Sections One and Two of the protocol to the Convention on Methods of Settling Border Conflicts and Incidents, concerning the place of residence of the frontier authorities on the side of the Polish Republic is amended to read as follows:

"1. The frontier representative for the Rzeszow sector, with permanent residence in the city of Przemysl: jurisdiction to extend from the Kremenets border marker (at the junction with the Czechoslovak border) to buoy marker No. 350, established in the 1946-1947 boundary demarcation, continuing from border marker No. 351-A to border marker No. 432-A, established in the 1951 boundary demarcation, and from border marker No. 472 to border marker No. 672 (at the Jaroslaw-Rava Russkaya Railroad), established in the 1946-1947 boundary demarcation.

"2. The frontier representative for the Chelm sector, with permanent residence in the city of Chelm: jurisdiction to extend from border marker No. 673 (at the Jaroslaw-Rava Russkaya Railroad) to border marker No. 700, established in the 1946-1947 boundary demarcation, continuing from border marker No. 701-B to border marker No. 869-B, established in the 1951 boundary demarcation, and from border marker No. 860 to border marker No. 1122 (at the town of Orkhovo, south of the city of Wlodawa), established in the 1946-1947 boundary demarcation."

III.—The present protocol shall be subject to ratification. The exchange of instruments of ratification shall take place in the city of Warsaw as soon as possible.

The protocol shall become effective from the time of its ratification by both contracting parties.

From the time when the present protocol becomes effective it shall constitute an integral part of the Treaty on the Soviet-Polish State Border Regime and of the Convention on Methods of Settling Border Conflicts and Incidents, signed in Moscow July 8, 1948; it shall remain in effect as long as the treaty and convention are in force and shall be subject to revision on the same basis as they are.

IV.—This protocol is signed in Moscow December 8, 1951, in two copies, each in the Russian and Polish languages, both texts having equal force.

[Signed by V. Kozlov for the U.S.S.R. and A. Zaruk-Michalski for the Polish Republic].

Ratified by the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet March 17, 1952.

Exchange of instruments of ratification held in Warsaw March 28, 1952.

Rumania

Danube-Black Sea Canal.—THOROUGHFARE OF LIFE.* (By Staff Correspondent P. Melnikov. Pravda, May 24, p. 3. 1900 words. Condensed text:) Constanta— ... There is still a great deal of work ahead, but even now the Rumanian people rightly call the route of the Danube-Black Sea Canal a thoroughfare of life. Intensive work goes on here day and night. The wide channel of the canal, which intersects Dobruja from the Danube to the Black Sea, is being made deeper and deeper, earth is being removed, new enterprises are being built and put into commission and bogs and marshes are being irrigated and reclaimed. Shelter belts stretch out for tens of kilometers along the route. More than a hundred square kilometers of malaria-ridden quagmires and marshes have already been cleared, rushes have been rooted out and young shoots of rice and vegetables have sprung up in their place. After all, not so long ago these were wretched places: malaria laid people low. This is all part of the past. Today the peasants of Dobruja come to the ricefields, to the irrigation canals that have been built here and express wonder at how their land is being transformed by the will of the people.

The Rumanian Workers' Party Central Committee and Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej devote great attention to the construction project. Experienced party officials have been sent here. It was not easy for them at first. There was a shortage of machinery and housing for builders. People came to the canal route and then left it. Kulaks spread rumors: "Whom are you listening to? Didn't all kinds of specialists also come here before your very eyes during the king's reign, measure something out, argue and shout? But how did it end? What did they do? You'll see; these people will go too! Nothing will come of this scheme."

But then Soviet machinery arrived at the construction site. On the summons of the Rumanian Workers' Party people came to the route from all parts of the country. Trade schools and clubs opened on the construction site. Young men and women were breathless at the prospects which were opened up before them by the mighty construction project stretching over 70 kilometers.

Blowing up cliffs, cleaving the sea with a dam, raising new cities, factories and plants along the canal route, people rallied more and more closely around the members of the Rumanian Workers' Party, became more and more convinced of the all-conquering force of free labor, of the successfully concluding

* [For previous articles on the Danube-Black Sea Canal, see Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 9, pp. 3-7.]

construction of the canal. New, remarkable cadres of builders are growing up and receiving training here. ...

Already now the construction project exercises a vital influence on the rural areas of Dobruja. Through the efforts of the peasants irrigation systems are being built on the fields and 16 villages have already been supplied with electricity. When the construction of the canal began, there were only two collective farms in Constanta Province. After a year had passed there were 73 of them, and now there are 137. ...

Only the people's regime, which received mighty technical assistance from the Soviet Union, was able to undertake this huge task. Exactly three years ago the question of building the Danube-Black Sea Canal was raised by Comrade G. Gheorghiu-Dej in the Politburo of the Rumanian Workers' Party Central Committee and was decided in a statesmanlike, profound, overall manner. The people's government decided to shorten sevenfold the length of the voyage for ships along the Danube from Cernavoda to Constanta, to industrialize the canal region, to reclaim the marsh-covered, malaria-ridden valley of Kara Su, to irrigate the arid lands and, by these means, to raise Dobruja from poverty and backwardness to happiness and a prosperous life.

"The Rumanian people turned to the Soviet Union, to Comrade Stalin, for assistance, which was generously given to us immediately," we were told by Grumberg Maier, the director general of the construction of the canal and a member of the Workers' Party. "The land of socialism sent its best specialists to us to draw up the general plan. They provided us with the latest technical literature and laid the foundations for Rumanian hydrotechny. A group of planners studying Soviet experience was formed at the canal site. Hundreds of technical books were translated from Russian into Rumanian. Working side-by-side with Soviet hydrotechnicians, our specialists passed through a remarkable school."

The canal builders consist of about 2000 members of the Workers' Party and more than 3000 members of the Union of Workers' Youth. They are pioneers in the mastery of complex technology and are perfecting their skill, which they show how to use boldly in an exemplary manner. This is the advanced detachment of the nationwide construction project, its militant and tireless vanguard. It conducts a considerable amount of educational work among the many thousands of people in the collective, has rallied around itself the non-party builders and has enlisted them in socialist competition. ...

Yugoslavia

The International Scene: CRIMES OF THE TITOITES AGAINST GREEK CHILDREN. (By L. Kosmodemyanskaya. Slavanye, No. 4, April [published in May], p. 36. Complete text:) The Belgrade fascists are committing a monstrous crime against the children of Greek patriots.

Several years ago, before the exposure of Tito's fascist clique, Greek fighters against the monarchical-fascist regime sent their children to neighboring Yugoslavia hoping to save them from the horrors of the fascist terror which had begun in Greece. Having fallen into the clutches of Tito, the children of the Greek patriots have become the victims of villainous treachery.

The Belgrade fascists have taken the Greek children to the mountains, as far as possible from the eyes of foreigners, and have put them behind barbed wire. Their letters to their parents living in the people's democracies, letters full of sorrow and anguish, bear witness as to the unbearably difficult life of these little slaves, who live under conditions of penal servitude and hard labor.

"First of all, we do not have enough bread," reports Sofia Helovska. "In the second place, we do not have clothes. We do not have a single piece of clothing. If only you could see the deplorable conditions we live in."

The Titoites use the ten- to 12-year-old boys and girls for forced labor; they force them, for a piece of bread and a plate of wormy beans, to move stones, to spade, and to do all kinds of heavy labor. The supervisors beat the young people unmercifully, throw them into the cellar, and starve them for the slightest protest.

One can learn from the letter of Fotiad Todoros to his father of the horrors and tortures which children undergo. "Daddy, I find myself living an unbearable life in Serbia," writes Fotiad Todoros. "They torture us in order to made us work."

Just like the Hitlerites, who forcefully Germanized the children they had kidnapped in the U.S.S.R., Poland, Czechoslovakia and other countries, or like the American racists, who tried to erase all recollection of their homeland from the memory of the Soviet children they harbored, the Titoite fanatics hastened to use butcherlike methods in order to make the Greek children forget their native tongue. The Titoite fascists forcefully separated the children and are forcing them to talk only in Serbian.

It is difficult to imagine what a horrible fate the Belgrade hangmen are preparing for the children.

"They said that we little children were going to Sit-vit," writes Fotiad Sultana. "We resisted. In the evening the police came. Papa, I can't count how many there were. There were 58 of us. They drove us into a corner and began to beat us unmercifully; they broke our arms, they fractured our skulls, our legs became black from blows; they made us get into the truck even though we were crying because we did not want to part."

There are many such letters. It is impossible to read the letters of the little slaves without emotion. Children cry out in them, asking to be rescued from the fascist captivity of Tito.

Despite the official inquiries of the parents, who demand that the Yugoslav government send them their children the Titoite criminals do not return the children.

The Belgrade rulers act in agreement with the Greek monarchical-fascists. Regarding the children of the Greek democrats as hostages, the Titoite fanatics turned many of them over to Athens authorities. Not long ago four groups of children were delivered to the Greek monarchical-fascist authorities. Five groups of the children of the Greek patriots were sent March 16.

The evil deeds of the Titoites against the Greek children are evoking the righteous indignation of all progressive mankind. The Titoites will not be forgiven for this base crime.

NEAR EAST

On International Themes: SUSPICIOUS PASSION FOR TRAVEL. (By M. Mikhailov. Izvestia, May 24, p.4. Complete text:) The countries of the Mediterranean and the Near East have recently been the object of particularly close attention by the diplomats and the military of the aggressive Atlantic bloc. More new attempts are being made to establish a base for imperialist aggression in the Mediterranean area, to draw the countries of the Arab East into the preparations for military ventures. The American and British imperialists are trying to skirt the obstacles they have come up against in regard to their "Middle East command" in devious ways and with the aid of various agents.

It is sufficient to quote the list of journeys by politicians and military men of the Atlantic bloc countries to the Mediterranean and Near Eastern countries recently to see how great is the activity of the aggressive forces in these areas. The Greek-Turkish talks were recently concluded in Athens, in which representatives of the Titoite clique secretly took part. At the same time Athens was visited by Field Marshal Montgomery, Deputy Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the Atlantic alliance. Montgomery then left for Ankara. Right on Montgomery's heels came the American Admiral Carney, Commander of the Armed Forces of the Atlantic alliance in the Mediterranean. In connection with the synchronizing of journeys between the British field marshal and the American admiral, France Presse stressed, not without malice: "It is difficult to make everyone believe that this is pure coincidence, even if it really is, since Anglo-American rivalry in the East and in the Mediterranean is now obvious to some people."

The British and American emissaries are chasing one another in the Arab East as well. Robertson, commander in chief in the Middle East, hardly had time to return from Jordan and Iraq, when a journey was made into the Arab countries by Byroade, Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Affairs. And his journey "coincided" in its turn with the journey by Thomas Rapp, the head of the British Middle East Office.

Judging from press reports, London is becoming more and

more alarmed by U.S. intentions to profit from the difficulties which British imperialism is experiencing in its relations with Egypt and other Near Eastern countries. In commenting on Byroade's trip, the Near Eastern press notes that the U.S.A. has worked out an extensive plan aimed at pushing the British out of the Near East.

In all these imperialist plans there remains only one constant factor: the desire to carry out these plans at the expense of the peoples of the Near East. It is precisely for these purposes that such persistent attempts are being made to attach the countries of the Near East to the Atlantic bloc. Seeing that the Near East countries were obviously suspicious both of the plan for the "Middle East command" and of the new variation on this plan in the form of a military alliance between Turkey, Iran and the Arab countries, the imperialists have brought on the scene their other agents—first of all, Franco Spain, and recently Greece as well. Immediately after the Greek-Turkish talks in Athens, the Greek Vice Premier Venizelos went to Syria and Lebanon. According to press reports, he took with him a draft "defense pact for the Mediterranean area," to include Greece, Turkey, Israel, the Arab countries and, as Venizelos hinted in his statement at a press conference in Beirut, with the covert participation of Yugoslavia also.

The press of the Near East reveals the true nature of Venizelos' trip. Thus, the Lebanese newspaper An Nidal states: "Whatever may be said in regard to the aims of the visit by the Greek minister and whatever attempts may be made to conceal its political aims, this visit is regarded in well-informed circles as a component part of the negotiations to conclude 'defense treaties.' " The Syrian newspaper Al Insha regards Venizelos' trip as the continuation of the mission by Franco's Minister of Foreign Affairs Artajo. In this connection Radio Mecca reports that the trips of Artajo and Venizelos caused dissatisfaction in Rome and that de Gasperi is preparing to go to the Near East soon since he does not wish to be left out of the imperialist intrigues in this area.

The newspaper As Sarha gives an exact description of all these past, present and future visits by imperialist agents to the Near East. All of them, the newspaper states, "are designed to make our countries a springboard for military aggression by putting through the draft Mediterranean pact."

The "Fechteler report," published at the beginning of May by the French newspaper Le Monde, revealed once again the hostility of these plans to the Near Eastern peoples. It expressed the desire to make the Mediterranean area and the Arab East into one of the chief American military springboards, to hand the resources of these countries over to American monopoly interests and push out Britain and other competitors. This undoubtedly reflects the aggressive designs of the United States. As the contradictions within the imperialist bloc become more acute, Washington politicians are trying more and more persistently to carry out these designs.

Iran

NOTE FROM SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT OF IRAN. (Pravda and Izvestia, May 23, p. 2. Complete text:) On May 21 A. Ya. Vyshinsky, U.S.S.R. Minister of Foreign Affairs, handed the Iranian Ambassador Mr. Arasteh a note from the Soviet government to the Iranian government on an exchange of letters which took place at the end of April, 1952, between Mr. Mossadegh, Prime Minister of Iran, and Mr. Henderson, U.S. Ambassador in Iran. The exchange of letters was concerned with the question of resuming so-called American "assistance" to Iran.

The text of the note is as follows:

"In connection with the exchange of letters which took place at the end of April, 1952, between Mr. Mossadegh, Prime Minister of Iran, and Mr. Henderson, U.S. Ambassador in Iran, on the question of the United States of America giving so-called assistance to Iran, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has the honor to communicate to the government of Iran the following.

"It is evident from the above-mentioned exchange of letters that an agreement has been reached between the governments of Iran and the U.S.A. that the United States give Iran military and financial assistance and that the government of Iran in turn undertake specific obligations of a military and political character.

"It is evident from reports in the Iranian press and also from statements by representatives of the Iranian and U.S. governments that in connection with this agreement the Iranian government has undertaken to resume contracts with American military advisers in Iran. This was confirmed in official statements April 27, 1952, by the Iranian Minister of Railroads Bushehri, on one hand, and April 25 by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State McDermott, on the other. It is well known also that the American military mission, which ceased its activity in January, 1952, as a result of an exchange of letters between Mr. Mossadegh and Mr. Henderson, has again resumed its work. Moreover the May 23, 1950, agreement between the U.S.A. and Iran concerning military assistance and an American military mission in Iran has also become effective again.

"Thus, as a result of the above-mentioned exchange of letters and the resumption of the Iranian-American military agreement, the Iranian government is placing the Iranian Army under the control of the government of the U.S.A. The Iranian Army thereby loses the character of a national army of an independent, sovereign state.

"The Soviet government considers it necessary to draw the attention of the Iranian government to the fact that in agreeing to accept the so-called American assistance and, related to this, in taking on specific military obligations in regard to the United States, the Iranian government is actually aiding the U.S. government to implement its aggressive plans directed against the Soviet Union.

"Such actions by the Iranian government cannot be regarded as anything but incompatible with good neighbor relations. It is the obligation of the signatories to the Feb. 26, 1921, Soviet-Iranian treaty to maintain and strengthen these relations."

The ambassador promised to bring the note to the attention of the Iranian government.

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE AGENTS MASKED AS 'U.N. OFFICIALS.' (Pravda, May 21, p. 3. Complete text:) Beirut (Tass)—The Lebanese newspaper As Sarha has published a report from Teheran which states:

Recently the so-called U.N. Bureau for Technical Aid to Underdeveloped Countries has considerably increased its activity in Iran. The number of officials in this bureau has been swelled greatly by specialists coming from the U.S.A.

Groups of "U.N. specialists" are traveling unhindered all over Iran. For instance one of these groups is doing topographical and geological work in Mazanderan Province on the coast of the Caspian Sea. In this work the group is devoting particular attention to the ports of Shahsavar, Naushahr, Babolsar, to passes through the Elburz Mountains and to the railroad which links this province with the interior of Iran and with Teheran.

Under the direction of the officials the bureau is carrying out large-scale work on the reconstruction of an airfield in Mehrabad which, after being re-equipped, will be able to take heavy bombers and jet aircraft.

Now the bureau has begun to select persons of Iranian origin to be sent to the U.S.A. O'Dwyer, a representative of this bureau, said recently at a press conference that in the U.S.A. they will have to receive training for a year in "special technical subjects" under the direction of American instructors. To accomplish this end the bureau is enlisting persons with sentiments hostile to the Iranian government. The newspaper declares that local Iranian circles fear these persons will receive training in the U.S.A. having no relation to technical questions.

CENTRAL EUROPE

Germany

SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC. (Pravda, May 27, p. 3; Izvestia, p. 4. Complete text:) Berlin (Tass)—The Information Department of the German Democratic Republic distributed the following report May 26:

The Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic assembled May 26, 1952, for an emergency meeting to determine

its attitude to the situation which has arisen from the fact that the Bonn government and the Western powers are creating numerous incidents on the demarcation line of the German Democratic Republic and sending spies, terrorists and contraband agents into the German Democratic Republic through the demarcation line. At numerous meetings the public, particularly in areas affected by these incidents, has asked the government for protection from enemy agents who, by their encroachments, want to undermine the German Democratic Republic and to impede the advance in the well-being of our population.

Werner Eggerat, Secretary of State under the Prime Minister (Secretary of State for coordinating the work of the government apparatus—Ed.), spoke and by numerous examples showed clearly that the frontier provocations by the Bonn government and the Western occupation powers have become systematic. After debates in which Deputy Prime Minister Otto Nuschke, Ministers Zaisser, Dertinger, Hamann and Burmeister took part, the Council of Ministers unanimously passed a resolution concerning measures on the demarcation line between the German Democratic Republic and the Western occupation zones of Germany.

SS MEN AGAIN RECEIVE WORK. (By M. Sagatalyan. Izvestia, May 21, p. 4. Complete text:) The American Senator Douglas, speaking some time ago in Congress, advised the United States "not to disdain relations with men of somewhat damaged reputations." The advice was clearly late if you remember that the ruling circles of the U.S.A. long ago bet on the fascist regimes of Tito, Franco and Chiang Kai-shek, on bands of spies and saboteurs sent out by Washington to the peace-loving states, on the Hitlerite generals.

In Western Germany the American occupation forces, who are rejuvenating the fascist Wehrmacht, manifest still more clearly their sympathy for the "experience" of the SS and Gestapo men.

The SS men Helmuth Schlierbach and Gottfried Drossen may again receive work "in their speciality." In 1947 these butchers were sentenced, one to ten and the other to 15 years in prison, for mass brutalities against American and British war prisoners. On April 4, 1952, both of them were prematurely freed by the American occupation authorities "for good behavior." The West German telegraph agency DPA, discussing this, does not specify for what "good behavior" Helmut Schlierbach and Gottfried Drossen were freed. However, taking everything into account, they were freed in 1952 for just what they were condemned for in 1947. For that same reason Willi Vogt and Josef Schmidt, former overseers in the Mauthausen concentration camp, were recently released from the American prison for war criminals in Landsberg.

The crux of the matter is that Helmuth Schlierbach, Gottfried Drossen, Willi Vogt, Josef Schmidt and hundreds of other butchers of Majdenek and Oswiecim, Buchenwald and Dachau were urgently needed across the ocean!

The other day civil servants in the U.S. Attorney-General's Office received a scolding from the highest authority. The pillars of American "democracy" were thundering because of the slow pace in construction of the huge concentration camps in Arizona, Oklahoma and other regions of the United States. They were also dissatisfied with the "technical" qualifications of the overseers of these camps, who were chosen from among the most cruel supervisors of federal prisons.

"It is necessary to teach them!" said the highest authority, who demanded that the Hitlerite torturers be invited in the capacity of "professors."

And here in the office of the American High Commissioner for Germany, McCloy, the work was in full swing. With the typewriters chattering like machine guns, extracts from the archives of Himmler's instructions on the surest ways of killing men are being copied to send to Washington. They are extracting from the archives also the plans of the fascist genocide camps, photographs of the torture chambers—in general everything called for in the order received by McCloy for "documents on the organization and equipment of the largest Nazi camps which existed during the war."

In another department of McCloy's office they are hurriedly searching for the de-Nazification lists, yellowing from age, in order to select from them the most skillful fanatics to send across the ocean. There is also an order from Washington on this. "Send to the U.S.A. a group of Germans who participated in the formation of the camps," this order reads.

Thus, one may expect that in the near future Helmuth Schlierbach and others of his ilk will be sent across the ocean to transmit their "experience."

The guardians of the "American way of life" will study from the zealots of the Hitlerite "new order." At the same time they are preparing still new, monstrous crimes against other peoples. And here also the work isn't done without the help of the Hitlerites. At the beginning of 1952 the Hearst journalist Drew Pearson wrote in the Daily Mirror that the fascist bacteriologist Walter Schreiber, one of the big war crminals serving a sentence, was in the U.S.A. working for the American Air Force. Striking a pose of indignant innocence, Drew Pearson writes: "It is not understood how this happened." However, two lines below Pearson drops the "condemnatory" tone and reports that before the command of the U.S. Air Force hired Schreiber, he was checked by the American authorities. That, it would appear, is how this happened.

This was back before the world found out about the monstrous crimes of the American imperialists who had unleashed germ warfare against Korea and China. And now in the American press there has appeared a UP report from Washington that Schreiber together with a group of Hitlerite bacteriologists headed by him, is working in the laboratories of the American Army in Edgewood and Camp Detrick.

In order that American readers will have no doubts concerning the "usefulness" of the activity of the Hitlerite killers in the white dressing-gowns, UP carries a statement by the American Maj. Gen. Armstrong that the work begun by Schreiber in the laboratories of Nazi Germnay "had great practical significance for the U.S. Army."

Gen. Armstrong is unnecessarily modest. He stopped far short of saying everything. He "forgot" to mention the American genocide camp for Korean and Chinese war prisoners on Koje Island. The horrors created on this island of death show that the American military service has started on the road to Hitlerite tyranny.

It is just for this reason that the butcher-like work of the Schlierbachs and Schreibers is considered a great service on the other side of the ocean.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Bolivia

AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS EXERT PRESSURE ON BOLIVIA. (Pravda, May 27, p. 4. Complete text:) Montevideo (Tass)—The Uruguayan newspaper Marcha reports that, according to available information, the U.S. State Department is imposing the following obligations on Bolivia. Only the fulfillment of these obligations will make the U.S.A. willing to recognize the government of Victor Paz Estenssoro:

Deferment for one year of studying the question of nationalizing the tin mines; granting guarantees to the newspaper La Razón—the mouthpiece of the imperialist monopolies—and other newspapers of the same type; the resignation of Juan Lechin, Minister of Mines and Petroleum, who represents the trade union movement in the government, and also of Minister of Labor German Butron and Minister of Internal Affairs Cesar Aliago Carrasco; dissolution of the National Federation of Mine Workers and immediate reorganization of the army on a basis which would make it possible for the army to act "in defense" of the Western Hemisphere, i.e., Marcha adds, to carry out a coup d'etat.

United States

COLONIAL EXPANSION OF THE U.S.A. (By I. Lemin. Trud, May 22, p. 3. 2100 words. Condensed text:) The accentuation of the general crisis of capitalism as a result of the second world war has exacerbated still more the imperialist struggle for repartition of colonies. ...

The populations of the immediate colonies of the U.S.A.—Alaska, Puerto Rico, the Hawaiian Islands, Samoa and others—are suffering now an even more severe and predatory exploitation than before the war. They are deprived of all political rights and are doomed to extinction from hunger and sickness.

Countries which have a formal, purely fictional independence, but actually in the position of colonies, as for example the Philippines, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Liberia, occupy a special place in the American colonial empire.

American imperialism makes rabid attempts to bring the whole American continent into the sphere of its colonial exploitation, under its monopolist, political and military domination. ...

The yearning for world colonial expansion was openly proclaimed in the so-called "Truman Point Four program." ...

The U.S. imperialists are the principal inspirers of the "dirty war" of French imperialism against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. The rulers of the U.S.A. urge on the British imperialists, insisting on active military operations in Malaya, rapid "eradication of communism" in Burma, etc. American plans for creating a "unified military command" in Southeast Asia are connected with this.

Recently the American onslaught on the British Empire has become stronger. American capital has greatly increased its participation in the copper mining of Northern Rhodesia; it has seized upon a considerable share of the gold mining in the Orange Free State (Union of South Africa). Recently the American monopolies made large investments in Nigeria (nonferrous metals), Southwest Africa, Tanganyika (lead), and Southern Rhodesia (copper, asbestos).

The Near East is the arena of a tense Anglo-American struggle. American imperialism, under the flag of the "Truman Doctrine" has transformed Turkey into its semicolonial appendage and into a military springboard. The state of Israel has suffered a similar fate. Saudi Arabia has been turned into the "oil field" of the Rockefellers. In Iran the U.S.A. is striving to take over all remnants of the former Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. With the help of the "Mediterranean Command" the Wall Street bosses are endeavoring to consolidate themselves in the Suez Canal and Egypt, to establish their military and political control over the countries of the Near and Middle East. ...

But the fight between the U.S.A. and other imperialist powers, and especially the fight between the U.S.A. and Britain, for the repartition of colonies is a source of new acute conflicts. Western Germany and Japan also desire colonial markets. The argument that American imperialism can by "peaceful means," through a series of transactions and agreements and with the help of economic penetration, take possession of British or French colonial empires is nothing more than a reformist illusion long ago exposed in the works of Lenin and Stalin. While capitalism exists, wars between capitalist countries are inevitable in view of the inequality of development of these countries, in view of the severe struggle for the repartition of colonies, of markets and spheres of influence.

American colonial expansion is running up against a more powerful and growing opposition from the peoples of the colonies and dependent countries. The gigantic upsurge in the national liberation movement is the principal factor determining the historical doom for the colonial plans of Wall Street. ...

Miscellany

13TH CONGRESS OF UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION. (Pravda, May 27, p. 4. Complete text:) Brussels (Tass)—At the May 21 meeting of the Congress of the Universal Postal Union working committees were created and the rules for the congress' work were also adopted.

The representative of Czechoslovakia was elected vice-chairman of the committee which will undertake consideration of questions relating to air mail.

During consideration of the question of the regulations for the congress' work, the U.S.S.R. representative introduced a proposal asking that the Russian language be included in the languages used in the work of the Congress of the Universal Postal Union. This proposal was adopted. All speeches of the delegates at the plenary sessions and in the committees will be translated into Russian, French, English and Spanish.

Communist Party

'SUBMIT QUESTIONS IN WRITTEN FORM.'—Letter From a Communist. (By S. Lutsenko, Chairman of Will of the Proletariat Collective Farm, Goryachevodskaya District, Stavropol Territory. Pravda, May 26, p. 2. 600 words. Condensed text:) A meeting is in progress. After speaking his last sentence, the speaker leaves the platform and the chairman rises from his seat:

"Now then, Comrades, we will submit questions in written form," he says, and the meeting tacitly agrees. The discussions begin. And then you don' t know whether to listen to the person speaking or formulate the question you yourself want to ask. While I was writing, the speaker said something interesting which caused excitement in the meeting, but I didn't catch it.

Nevertheless, I handed in my note. I am interested in why the speaker kept silent about the violation of the Collective Farm Statutes which a certain artel committed. I would like to speak on this question, but now I don' t know what to do. You begin to criticize—but perhaps the necessary measures have already been taken, and in that case the speech will be frivolous. But what if nothing has been done? After all, it doesn' t matter: the speaker will reply to my note only in his final speech, when the discussion has already ended and it will be too late to speak myself.

However, even these suppositions were not justified. In his final speech the speaker simply did not reply to my note. Evidently it was not to his advantage to speak on this topic, and he made use of his opportunity to reply to the questions of his choice. This is what questions in writing sometimes lead to. ...

Indeed, why has it become customary to put questions only in writing? After all, this form of question does not in any way promote the development of criticism and self-criticism. The course of a discussion often depends on the reply to this or that particular question. Possibly the Communist who put the question is not satisfied with the reply and holds a different point of view. Does he not have the right to express it and raise it for discussion by the meeting? Of course he has. But in practice he cannot use this right, since questions put in writing are usually answered only in the final speech.

It is not so bad when the speaker reads out the note that has been handed to him. Then the meeting can get to know what has been asked and whether or not a reply has been made to the substance of the question. But after all, the speaker often does not read out these notes: he simply touches on the questions they raise in his final speech.

Finally, the speaker has the opportunity of simply not replying to a note which touches him on a sore point and hence of deflecting criticism from himself.

Of course, questions in writing should not be completely abandoned. Every participant in a meeting must be allowed to put his questions in whatever form he desires. Oral questions, which for some reason have been completely excluded from the practice of Party meetings in many primary units, must be given recognition.

Party Life: ELIMINATE OFFICIOUSNESS IN PARTY WORK. (By G. Airyan, Staff Correspondent for the Armenian Republic. Pravda, May 24, p. 2. 900 words. Summary:) Yerevan—Two years ago the young teacher Kh. Manukyan, a Party member, was assigned to work at one of the schools in the village of Karaglukh in Azizbekov District, and soon won the respect of the teachers for his energetic work.

Manukyan frequently criticized shortcomings in the work of the school at Party and teachers' meetings. Comrade Ovanesyan, principal of the school, said nothing as long as the criticism had to do with others, but on one occasion Comrade Manukyan happened to criticize him, and from that moment on the attitude of the principal and of the village officials became very different. Word went around that he was a poor teacher, and every effort was made to get rid of him.

Manukyan then appealed to the Azizbekov District Party Committee for support, at the same time writing to the republic young people's newspaper. The district Party committee ignored him, and the newspaper simply forwarded the letter to committee. Backed by the district Party committee, school principal Ovanesyan, collective farm chairman Ya. Shakhbazyan, village Soviet chairman V. Akopyan and others increased their persecution of Manukyan to the point that in Manukyan's absence the primary Party unit was persuaded to expel him from the Party.

The Azizbekov District Committee looked at the resolution of the primary Party unit and changed the expulsion to a severe reprimand, but it left the ridiculous charges unchanged and, what is more, decided to transfer Manukyan elsewhere.

This is not the only incident of its kind in the work of the Azizbekov District Party Committee. The committee prefers officiousness to Party political and educational work and sometimes resorts to extreme steps without justification. Here is a typical example:

Two years ago Party member A. Nazaryan was elected secretary of the primary Party unit in the collective farm in the village of Gladzor. This young Communist had no experience in Party work and was not helped by the district committee. Soon he was removed from his post. A short time afterward Nazaryan was called in from his new job in the financial department of the district Soviet and told that he was again to be secretary of the collective farm Party organization. A few days later Comrade Arutyunyan, a representative of the district Party committee, came to the village, called the Communists together and told them about the district committee's intentions. Nazaryan was elected secretary.

Nazaryan was away on a field trip at the time and did not find out about the decision reached by the committee until ten days later. He was immediately called to a meeting of the district committee bureau, where he was accused of being undisciplined because he had not assumed the duties of secretary promptly. He was then given a severe reprimand.

The Party member spent several days trying to explain to the district committee secretaries that the reprimand was unjust. The officials of the committee decided to be even more severe, and Secretary Comrade Petrosyan went to the village with new instructions: to expel Nazaryan from the Party.

This time the Communists disagreed with the district committee, and the very next day those who had voted against the move to expel Nazaryan were called to the district committee bureau, where they were given a dressing-down. The district committee bureau decided to consider the stand of the Party organization incorrect and expelled Nazaryan.

Comrade Khachatryan received the same heartless treatment. He heard about his assignment to the collective farm in the village of Gladzor five days after the district committee had decided on it, and from the collective farm chairman at that. When he went to the district committee to verify the report he was coolly received and expelled from the Party that same day. To give weight to the resolution of the district committee bureau the committee had raked up and exaggerated all Khachatryan's past mistakes.

These incorrect resolutions of the Azizbekov District Party Committee were ultimately revoked by higher Party agencies, but the district committee has failed to draw the proper conclusions from this. It has issued reprimands to 50 Communists since April, 1951.

The Yerevan Region Party Committee is aware of the faulty work of the Azizbekov District Party Committee, but it has taken no steps to remedy the situation as yet.

Follow-up on a Pravda Report: 'SUPPORT CRITICISM FROM BELOW.'* (Pravda, May 21, p. 2. Complete text:) The bureau of the Grodno Province Party Committee has discussed the article "Support Criticism From Below" which appeared in Pravda April 17, 1952 and has admitted that Pravda correctly revealed shortcomings and mistakes in the work of the Grodno Province and City Party Committees. Comrade Romanov, secretary of the province Party committee; Comrade Podzhary, director of the committee's industry and transporta-

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. IV, No. 16, pp. 19-20.

tion department; and Comrade Kundovich, Secretary of the Grodno City Party Committee, adopted an incorrect attitude toward critical letters from Communist Trubchennikov and Yaduta.

The letters and statements by Comrades Trubchennikov and Yaduta regarding irregularities in the building materials combine have been confirmed by a checkup and are correct. Accordingly the bureau of the province Party committee acknowledges that the charges of slander, squabbling and disruption of production brought against them are completely unfounded.

The bureau of the province Party committee has rescinded its resolution imposing a Party reprimand on Comrade Yaduta. The Grodno City Party Committee's resolutions on Comrades Trubchennikov and Yaduta have also been rescinded as incorrect and politically harmful and tending to suppress criticism from below.

The manager of the building materials combine has been instructed to reinstate Comrades Yaduta and Trubchennikov, since their dismissal was incorrect and had the object of getting rid of workers who criticized shortcomings of the directors of the combine.

Comrade Podzhary, director of the province committee's industry and transportation department, and Comrade Kundovich, Secretary of the Grodno City Party Committee, have been given severe Party reprimands for their incorrect attitude toward the criticism contained in letters from Comrades Trubchennikov and Yaduta. The bureau of the province Party committee has pointed out to province committee secretary Comrade Romanov his failure to get to the heart of the affair of Comrades Trubchennikov and Yaduta and the fact that he took a superficial approach to the matter which abetted the suppression of criticism. Grodno City Party Committee Secretary Comrade Radyuk has been reminded of his superficial attitude toward investigating the case of Comrades Trubchennikov and Yaduta.

The province Party committee bureau has resolved to take all necessary steps for preventing errors like those which occurred in investigating the cases of Comrades Trubchennikov and Yaduta in the future work of the bureau, of province Party committee departments and of city and district Party committees, and to create the necessary atmosphere for the development of criticism and self-criticism in order to reveal shortcomings in the work of Party, Soviet and economic agencies and individual officials.

The Grodno City Party Committee has been instructed to discuss the Pravda article at a plenary session and at meetings of the primary Party units, to draw the appropriate conclusions from the criticism it contains and to ensure the development of criticism and self-criticism in the Party organization and support for critical comments emanating from below.

Follow-up on a Pravda Report: 'CONSTANTLY LOOK AFTER WORKING PEOPLE'S WELFARE.'* (Pravda, May 24, p. 2. Complete text:) The bureau of the Barnaul City Party Committee has discussed the article "Constantly Look After Working People's Welfare," published in Pravda April 21, and has acknowledged it to be correct.

The bureau of the city Party committee has called the attention of the secretaries of the city committee to the fact that they are not doing satisfactory work in handling problems of cultural and public services to the population and has charged them with establishing strict control over fulfillment of the construction plan, development of the municipal economy and improvement of the city.

The city Party committee has warned Comrade Cherepov, chairman of the city executive committee, that he will be held to strict Party responsibility for the state of cultural and public services to the working people, and has charged him with eliminating shortcomings in this work.

The city Party committee has outlined practical measures for improving the work of the Party organizations of Soviet institutions. It has been decided to discuss the question of fulfillment of the construction plan and development of the municipal economy at a meeting of the city Party aktiv.

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. IV, No. 16, pp. 22-23.

Young Communist League

From the Latest Mail: CRITICISM BY PERMISSION. (Pravda, May 21, p. 2. Complete text:) Comrade Rybko, editor of the newspaper Buryat-Mongolsky Komsomolets [Buryat-Mongolian Young Communist] was summoned to the province Young Communist League committee. The secretary of the committee, Comrade Vergesov, received him sternly and angrily. He expressed dissatisfaction with the report of the plenary session of the Ulan-Ude City Y.C.L. Committee which the newspaper had printed. The province committee considered the article erroneous, although it justly criticized the secretary of the Y.C.L. committee of the Locomotive and Car Plant, Comrade Bugai, for arrogance and lack of attentiveness to young people. Sensing that he had strong support, Comrade Bugai gave the staff of the newspaper a dressing-down from the rostrum of a regular plenary session of the province committee.

The province Y.C.L. Committee demands that the newspaper criticize secretaries of the district Y.C.L. committees only with its permission. For example, it asked that the only critical comment in one issue already prepared for the press—a comment to the effect that the Prigorodny District Y.C.L. Committee neglected organizational work—be withdrawn.

Readers notice the absence of criticism in the newspaper. Reference has been made to it at readers' conferences held by the staff. Not once in six months has the province Y.C.L. committee shown a deep interest in the work of the editorial offices or supported a single article in the paper.

The officials of the province Y.C.L. committee are bent on suppressing and stifling criticism.

State and Law

Work of the Soviets: WHY SESSION OF VORONEZH CITY SOVIET WAS NOT HELD. (By Staff Correspondent A. Chernyshov. Izvestia, May 23, p. 2. 900 words. Summary:) Voronezh—Officials of the Voronezh City Soviet Executive Committee were unusually excited May 20. They had been telephoning madly since morning to inform Deputies of a city Soviet session that evening. The session was also announced over the city's radio network.

"What is it all about?" wondered the Deputies. "There was a session only yesterday. Why are we being called in again? There must be some mistake."

No, there was no mistake.

The Voronezh City Soviet met on May 19 to hear and approve the executive committee report on fulfillment of the 1951 budget and to approve the city budget for 1952. Three hundred forty out of 495 Deputies came to the session, the rest being absent for various reasons.

Comrade Vorovkov, director of the city finance department, delivered a monotonous report at the session: figures, figures and more figures! The interesting and varied life of a large city was submerged in it. The speaker could have told the Deputies about the lavish help given Voronezh by the state and about the self-sacrificing efforts of the city's residents. He should also have severely criticized shortcomings in fulfilling the budget and should have named those responsible. There was none of this, however, and the report was discussed in the same dull and monotonous manner as it was delivered.

When the time came to adopt a resolution, Deputy Buturlin handed a note to Deputy Razdymalin, chairman of the meeting, expressing concern that there were not enough Deputies present to constitute a quorum. The note was read out and a count revealed 216 Deputies present.

Some Deputies held that there was no quorum, while others said there was because half the members who had appeared were still there (!?). The matter was voted upon, and a quorum was announced where there obviously was none.

The next day—May 20—the province Soviet executive committee adopted a special resolution on the work of this session, calling the attention of the city Soviet executive committee and Comrade Osipov, its chairman, to violation of the principles of Soviet democracy at the session. On the

basis of Article 90 of the Russian Republic Constitution the province executive committee canceled the resolutions adopted by this session and charged the Voronezh City Executive Committee with discussing the budget again.

This is why all the telephones were busy at the city Soviet executive committee May 20.

Naturally haste and disorganization led to nothing good. Many Deputies could not even be informed of the new session, and it had to be postponed until May 26.

Who is responsible for all this? First of all the city Soviet executive committee, its chairman, Comrade Osipov, and its vice-chairmen, Comrades Belsky, Novikov, Fetisov, Vereshchagin and Komarov. The executive committee saw Comrade Vorovkov's report in advance. Why did it tolerate such a lack of criticism and self-criticism?

But the report is not the whole of the matter. The officials of the executive committee have reduced all the work of preparing for sessions to the bare mechanics of informing the Deputies that sessions are to be held.

The province executive committee is also to blame because it pays little attention to the preparations for and conduct of sessions of the city and district Soviets.

One more thing should be pointed out: usually seats are not assigned to Deputies at sessions of the city Soviets. They and their guests have to sit where they can, which causes difficulties in the work of the sessions. Moreover, too many guests are often invited.

The province Soviet executive committee must take note of the disruption in the work of the session of the Voronezh City Soviet. It must also pay careful attention to the state of all the city Soviet's organizational mass work.

Trade Unions

IN SECRETARIAT OF CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS.—On Participation of Trade Union Organizations in the Public Society for Cooperation With the Armed Forces. (Trud, May 25, p. 1. Complete text:) Attributing great significance to the enlistment of working people in the practical work of the Public Society for Cooperation With the Armed Forces [DOSAAF], the Secretariat of the Central Council of Trade Unions has obliged central, republic, province, territory, district, factory, plant and local trade union committees and councils to pay increased attention to the society's work.

It is proposed that trade union organizations, in cooperation with the organizations of DOSAAF, improve work in drawing the broad masses of the working people into the society and disseminating military and technical knowledge. They should give lectures and reports, hold meetings devoted to special themes and organize exhibits and displays reflecting the development and achievements of Soviet military technology and the work of DOSAAF.

It is recommended that trade union and economic organizations help DOSAAF organizations in forming classes, installing rifle ranges, parachute towers, water sports stations and sports facilities and acquiring educational materials, visual aids and other items of training equipment.

The trade unions' public sports societies should work with DOSAAF in organizing sports meets and competitions.

PLENARY SESSION OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY WORKERS' TRADE UNION. (Trud, May 22, p. 1. Complete text:) The fifth plenary session of the Central Committee of the Iron and Steel Industry Workers' Trade Union ended May 21. Comrade Yefanov, chairman of the trade union Central Committee, made a report on fulfillment of the decree of the sixth plenary session of the Central Council of Trade Unions on improvement of the supervision of socialist competition in ferrous metallurgy enterprises.

In 1952 metalworkers raised technical and economic production indices. On the initiative of Comrade Yakimenko, smelter at the Zaporozhye Iron and Steel Mill, competition has developed for use of high-speed methods in producing every smelting. Stakhanovites Comrades Rodichev, Khudyakov and Panchenko of the Magnitogorsk combine initiated competition for the elimination of production losses and maximum utilization of the internal reserves of enterprises. The blast furnace workers at the Chelyabinsk Iron and Steel Mill were the initiators of competition for excellent maintenance of installations and complex economy of funds in repairing and operating equipment.

But qualitative labor indices remain low at a number of enterprises. In certain mills there are high losses from spoiled output. Trade union organizations at these enterprises are not struggling energetically for more economy in production and have not eliminated formalism in the supervision of socialist competition.

Comrades Pistekhin and Pliskonos, chairmen of the factory committees at the Kuznetsk and Magnitogorsk Metallurgical Combines; Comrades Olkhovoi, Gorbachev and Ruzbayev, chairmen of the factory committees at the Zaporozhye Steel Mill and the Chelyabinsk and Uzbek Metallurgical Plants; Comrade Gerasimov, Chairman of the Dnepropetrovsk Province Trade Union Committee, and others criticized the trade union Central Committee during the discussion for its inadequate supervision of subordinate trade union organizations.

Those present at the session also discussed the state of mass physical culture and sports work among metalworkers and measures for improving it. Detailed resolutions were adopted on both questions.

Industry

On Economic Themes: SPEED PREPARATORY WORK IN DONETS BASIN MINES. (By Doctor of Technical Sciences D. Ogloblin, Professor in Khrushchev Industrial Institute, Donets Basin. Izvestia, May 23, p. 2. 1800 words. Condensed text:) Stalino— ... The postwar years have been marked in the Donets Basin by extensive use of new mining equipment. Hundreds of different pieces of equipment have lightened the work of the miners and made it safer and more productive. ...

The successes of the Donets Coal Basin are unquestioned, but the reserves for extracting still more coal and further improving the technical and economic indices of the work of Donets Basin mines are far from exhausted. These reserves are especially great at the Stalino Coal Combine, the largest and most highly mechanized. The combine can work much better than it did in 1951 or during the first months of this year. The combine's mines are not yet making adequate use of their excellent mining equipment, especially coal-mining combines. The advanced method of organizing production on the basis of one cycle per 24 hours is being introduced slowly.

Perhaps the main thing preventing a further and more powerful upsurge in coal extraction is the lag in preparatory work. Constant concern for the morrow and timely preparation of the work area are more vital in the coal industry then in any other. Normal coal extraction cannot be ensured without preparatory work.

The case of Lidiyevka Mine No. 2-7 is very instructive in this respect. Three years ago it was one of the best in the combine, but now there is hardly a month in which Lidiyevka fulfills the coal extraction plan.

The reasons that the work has deteriorated are clear. Three years ago entries were 80 to 120 meters ahead of the walls at the mine; there was an adequate face. Then, through irresponsible and technically incompetent management, preparatory work was neglected and, as the miners say, the reserve galleries and stopes were gradually "eaten away." The mine began to lag, and the situation has not been remedied to this day.

Lidiyevka No. 2-7 is no exception. ... Last year the plan for preparatory work was fulfilled only 92% for the combine as a whole. ... Not one of the trusts in the combine fulfilled the plan for preparing reserve walls, to be worked when others had gone out of operation.

The lag in preparatory work has had a negative effect on the output of existing walls as well. An order of the U.S.S.R. Minister of the Coal Industry, issued back in 1950, states that walls worked by channeling machines must have entries at least 50 meters ahead of them and combine-operated walls must have them at least 70 meters ahead. This order is not being carried out, however.

The heads of the combine and trust have proved incapable of seeing to it that the entries or even the walls mined on the cyclical schedule are prepared far enough ahead, and these are the most productive walls, the ones which should account for more than half of the combine's total output. The lag in preparatory work is largely the reason why some mines have failed to meet their output quotas.

But are there any reasons for such a lag in preparatory work? No. Every mine and every trust could fulfill the plan for preparatory work, but a practice has developed in the combine and trusts whereby the mine managers are asked mainly about fulfillment of the output plan. They in turn require of section foremen only that they fulfill the output plan. Tunneling equipment is poorly utilized in the mines. Approximately one-third of the ore-loading machinery on hand is used, and the average actual output of this equipment is low. This equipment, which lessens the work of the tunneling brigades and speeds tunneling progress, is often ignored completely. ...

Such things as shortage of members in tunneling brigades, the frequent use of tunnel drillers for secondary tasks and high turnover in the brigades show the neglect of preparatory work. Failure to provide sufficient empty ore cars and poor labor organization mean that many tunnel drillers are failing to fulfill their output norms. The experience of leading brigades, especially those working with ore-loading machines, is poorly disseminated.

Preparatory work is an important link in the struggle for fulfillment of state assignments, for increased output and improved technical and economic indices. It is time the managers of the Stalino Coal Combine and other combines in the Donets Basin made sure that plans for preparatory work were fulfilled by every mine.

This question becomes especially important in connection with the transition of individual mines to a new and more economical method of working deposits in the Donets Basin. This method involves mining from the boundaries of the mine fields, which permits a considerable increase in the use of machinery and a reduction in production costs. Introduction of the new system depends first of all on accelerated drilling of preparatory workings, especially of entries. Donets Basin miners must not only overcome the lag in preparatory work in 1952 but must also make a major advance, at least tripling the tunneling of entries. Tunneling must be increased even more in following years.

All this requires increased responsibility for fulfillment of the plan for preparatory work and maximum use of available equipment, as well as prompt solution of a number of technical and organizational problems.

Take for example drilling and blasting work, which is so important in tunneling. There are about 100 different plans for placing blast holes in mines of the combine, but no one generalizes upon their merits and shortcomings.

The drilling equipment situation is unsatisfactory. Various ores, from slate to hard limestone are encountered in almost every mine, but blast holes are sunk with drills and bits of the same type in all cases. Usually this means a loss of drilling speed and excess expenditures. As many as 135 bits are used to drill a heading at the Shcheglovka Mine. ...

Increased speed in preparatory work poses the problem of further mechanizing tunneling and in particular of mechanizing the handling of ore. ... It is necessary to design a new ore-carrying machine for workings with a pitch of more than ten or 12 degrees, and also to design reliable ore conveyers. It is essential that the production of tunneling combines be mastered at a more rapid rate. ... The combine should take steps for exhaustive study of the experience of leading tunnel drillers and on this basis set up standard technological plans for different geological conditions.

It seems to us that one of the reasons for the lag in preparatory work is the fact that neither the trusts nor the combine have bodies to guide this important work, to generalize upon advanced experience or effectively to solve problems which arise. The time is ripe for making preparatory work in individual mines independent of production work, and for creating special preparatory work departments in the trusts and combines. ...

REDUCE ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES. (By Engineer F. Savenkov. Izvestia, May 24, p. 2. Complete text:) Soviet factories saved more than 26,000,000,000 rubles through reduced unit costs in 1951. This figure is supposed to reach 43,000,000,000 in 1952. A high rate of accumulation and increased profitability of enterprises depend on introduction of the advanced experience of innovators, more boldness in discovering existing reserves and thorough use of sources for further reducing the unit cost of production.

Often two enterprises under the same ministry and with the same equipment capacity have different unit costs of production, in one case administrative costs being two to three times as great as in the other. This shows that industry still has many unutilized reserves for further reducing the unit cost of production.

Administrative expenditures are a major factor in unit cost. As is known, accounting methods figure administrative costs as part of production expenses. To reduce these costs means to save tremendous sums. Meanwhile, some industrial enterprises have very complex, expensive administrative structures with a multitude of different subdivisions.

Let us take for example the so-called production combines of a number of ministries. The following administrative ladder exists: individual jobs form a sector (brigade or unit), sectors form a department (process or conveyer), departments form a shift, shifts form a shop and shops form the factory, which is subordinate to a factory administration, which is in turn subordinate to the management of a combine. Administrative personnel are everywhere. The number of production workers in such combines is usually not very large, and administrative expenses are quite a burden on the unit cost of production.

This situation obtains in the Vladivostok and many other combines of the Ministry of the Fishing Industry, in the Ozyory, Vishny Volochok and Kurovskoye Combines of the Ministry of Light Industry and at many enterprises of the Ministries of the Meat and Dairy Industry, the Food Industry and the Lumber Industry.

Checkups have shown that in order to bring about a seeming reduction in the number of administrative personnel the managers of some institutions have deceived the state by listing excess office employees as workers in the production shops, paying them out of the wage fund for production personnel and illegally increasing the administrative staff at the expense of shop personnel.

Frequently many small, split-up, parallel shops are formed needlessly. This usually makes administrative work more complicated, decreases responsibility for production and increases administrative expenditures and the unit cost of production.

The Lyubertsy Machine Plant of the Ministry of Railroads, for example, could combine the compression-mold and instrument shops into a single shop. They are in the same building, do similar work and each of them has a small number of workers.

It would be quite expedient to combine two parallel machine shops and two auxiliary repair shops at the Iskra Plant of the Moscow City Local Industry Administration, and also to merge the [hydraulic] press shop with the cold-work shop. Such reorganization would considerably increase the effectiveness of technical supervision and eliminate excess administrative expenditures.

Large enterprises should also critically re-examine their division into shops and analyze the relationship of overhead expenses to the wages paid to production workers.

The Iman Barrel Factory of the Chief Eastern Fish Container Administration has a shop with ten administrative personnel for every seven production workers, while the same chief administration's Troitsk Barrel Plant has shops where three workers are managed by four persons and a shop where one production worker is managed by three office workers.

There are even greater "anomalies." Rostov Tannery No. 3 recently organized a shop headed by a manager—but having no workers.

In order to conceal disproportionately inflated administrative staffs and sometimes to increase salaries some enterprises

call warehouses, transportation and other nonproductive parts of the administration "shops."

A supply and preparation shop was formed in place of a supply warehouse at the Krasin Pencil Factory, while most of the garment enterprises of the Ministry of Light Industry have turned their raw material warehouses into "production" shops for preparing raw materials. The Archangel Fishing Combine has created a so-called "transit shop" with 16 office workers.

One of the principal means of reducing administrative expenditures is to eliminate what are frequently unnecessary intermediary links in the supply and marketing organizations. There are frequent cases, even in the same ministry, where instead of finished products going directly to the enterprise which has ordered them, they go first to the warehouses of marketing organizations, then to those of supply organizations, and only then to the enterprise which has ordered them.

Many garment plants obtain the cloth they need through a number of marketing and supply organizations rather than directly from the textile mills. For example, ten garment factories in Rostov-on-Don and Rostov Province obtain cloth through bases of the Chief Textile Marketing Administration there. These bases in turn obtain the cloth from 63 different suppliers, including warehouses and shipping bases of the Chief Textile Marketing Administration in many cities of the Soviet Union.

Considerable savings would be made if many enterprises were partially freed of a number of auxiliary organizations which were organized at one time in order to ensure prompt suppliers of certain types of raw materials, supplies and fuel. In most cases these auxiliary organizations are unnecessary and divert attention from the basic production task. Many enterprises have small lumber procurement sectors, peat workings and coal mines. The unit costs of the lumber, fuel and other types of raw materials and supplies obtained from them is disproportionately high while the quality is low.

Hundreds of thousands of unnecessary workers can be released and the unit cost of production can be reduced considerably if order is established with regard to shop personnel.

(Editorial)—MORE ATTENTION TO CADRES OF YOUNG WORKERS. (Izvestia, May 25, p. 1. 1300 words. Summary:) Every year hundreds of thousands of young workers enter the U.S.S.R. national economy. The state labor reserves system provides a tremendous number of recruits for the working class. Two hundred thirty model shops have been organized in trade schools and factory training schools recently, and 3000 up-to-date machine tools have been installed. Graduates of many labor reserve schools master complex and precise production methods and study Stakhanovite work methods in the course of their on-the-job training.

At the same time it should be said that production training in the labor reserves system still has serious shortcomings. The principals and teachers at some schools do little to familiarize students with advanced Stakhanovite methods or the proposals made by innovators.

The Ministry of Labor Reserves is also to blame for this. The program worked out by the ministry allocates 2220 hours for on-the-job training of lathe hands in the trade schools, for example, but only 20 hours out of this total are allocated for the important problem of turning out parts at high speeds.

Some schools training young workers lack the necessary equipment. Mining Industry School No. 1 in Karaganda, for example, does not have a single mining combine. Operation of combines is studied from drawings.

During the last registrations for trade, railroad and mining industry schools there were three to four applicants for every opening in Sverdlovsk Province, three in Voroshilovgrad Province and four in Moscow Province. Most of the applicants had been graduated from seven-year schools. Naturally, the higher educational qualifications of students implies increased responsibility on the part of principals and teachers. It is their task to produce politically aware, highly cultured, technically qualified workers who have mastered the latest equipment and are familiar with all that is new and advanced in our present-day socialist industry.

The education of young workers does not end at the walls of the schools, however. It is very important that the young workers be helped in starting their working life, that they be shown the opportunities offered through their work and that they be integrated in the group. Bureaucratic handling of this matter cannot be tolerated.

Good traditions have become established at the Stalin Mine in the Kuznetsk Coal Basin. Here young workers are the object of care and attention. It has become the custom at the mine for the older miners not only to help the young people master production processes but also to show an interest in their lives, to give them practical advice on all sorts of matters.

Unfortunately some enterprises still take an incorrect approach in dealing with new workers. The Rostov Farm Equipment Plant often fails to use them in the capacity for which they were trained, using them instead as unskilled labor. Many workers with only elementary education are not enrolled in the schools for working young people. The plant also shows little concern for the living conditions of the young workers. Many of them live in poorly equipped dormitories.

The Rostov City Soviet Executive Committee has lost sight of the important matter of the life and welfare of the city's largest enterprise. This is their vital concern, but the officials of the executive committee are indifferent to the major shortcomings in the workers' settlements of the plant.

The executive committees of district, city, province and territory Soviets must take an active part in training cadres, in their cultural education and well-being. Local Soviet officials must show constant interest in the living conditions of the young workers and see what facilities have been provided for them both at work and after hours.

(Editorial)—IMPROVE ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT. (Pravda, May 27, p. 1. 1300 words. Summary:) Socialist competition is expanding more and more widely in our country. However, we still have backward enterprises which do not fulfill the production plan. It is well known that in the first quarter of 1952 the Ministries of the Oil, Heavy Machine-Building and Fishing Industries and industrial enterprises of the Ministry of Railroads underfulfilled the gross industrial output plan. Substantial nonfulfillment of the plan also occurred in the Ministry of the Lumber Industry.

In our socialist economy every executive, whether his position is big or small, must place the interests of the state above all else and strictly observe state discipline. There can be no tolerating a situation in which a narrowly departmental approach, harmful to the interests of our planned economy, is to be observed among industrial executives. For example, the Red Cadet Factory, which belongs to the network of the Ministry of the Paper and Wood Processing Industries' Chief Eastern Paper Industry Administration, has been turned into a kind of storehouse for raw materials and supplies. Substantial surplus stocks of metal, metal products, sodium, textiles, automobile tires, ball bearings, glass and other materials have appeared at the factory. As early as last year the officials of the factory confronted the chief administration with the necessity of disposing of surplus materials in the manner provided by law, but hitherto the chief administration has not dealt with the matter.

The function of the Soviet industrial executive is to direct socialist competition concretely and effectively, to pay careful attention to the voice of the masses and to give active support to all that is new, advanced and progressive. There can be no countenancing the fact that some of our industrial executives still do not always pay careful attention to the proposals of advanced production workers, technicians and others and take a sluggish, routine approach to the utilization of new techniques. The task is to root out such shortcomings thoroughly and ensure a high standard of supervision of all economic work.

Follow-up on a Pravda Report: 'LITTLE HOPE FOR STOOLS.'* (Pravda, May 23, p. 3. Complete text:) P. Dudochkin's feuilleton (Pravda March 21) stated that citizens'

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. IV, No. 12, p. 30.

needs and requirements for consumers' goods are not always taken into consideration in Kalinin Province.

The bureau of the Kalinin Province Party Committee has discussed the feuilleton and noted that Pravda revealed serious shortcomings. The bureau has charged Comrade Sadovnikov, chairman of the province executive committee, with eliminating them through steps to improve the work of local and cooperative industry.

It has been pointed out that the directors of the province local industry department (Comrade Kopin), the province union of producers' cooperatives (Comrade Furman), the province union of invalids' cooperatives (Comrade Shnigirev) and the province union of woodworking producers' cooperatives (Comrade Zakhvatov) do not note the poor work of many enterprises, are not struggling for quality of production and are doing poor work to meet the contracts with trade organizations to supply articles in great demand such as buckets, stools, axes, shaft-bows, wheels, furniture, ironware, harness and other products. The above comrades have been warned that they are personally responsible for eliminating the shortcomings revealed.

Agriculture

(Editorial)—STRICTLY OBSERVE FUNDAMENTAL LAW OF COLLECTIVE FARM LIFE. (Izvestia, May 24, p. 1. 1400 words. Condensed text:) ... The Party and government demand that the Collective Farm Statutes be held sacred. Regular checking on strict observance of the statutes is one of the most important tasks of the Bolshevist leadership of collective farms. ...

However, in a number of regions there still occur violations of the statutes which inflict serious damage on the cause of strengthening and developing the communally owned sector of the collective farms and impinge on the interests of collective farm workers.

In particular, quite a number of such violations were committed in the collective farms of Novosibirsk Province. This is evidence that the province executive committee and its agencies did not conduct a steady and consistent fight against violators of the statutes. The committee did not check up on the execution of its own resolutions aimed at defending the interests of the communal sector. Thus in the middle of 1951 violations of the statutes came to light in Kargat District. Three months later the officials of the district informed the province executive committee that the situation had been remedied. The province officials did not check up on this report, and it now appears that it was humbug from beginning to end. At present still more violations than there were a year ago have been brought to light in this district.

Reports of violations of the Collective Farm Statutes also come from certain collective farms in Kiev Province. An Izvestia correspondent reports that the workers of the Communard Collective Farm in Volodarka District have exerted great efforts to rid themselves of hangers-on, but in vain. To this day the watchman of the district highway department, a cemetery watchman and others are maintained at the expense of collective farm workday units. Last year the collective farm expended on administrative and economic work twice the number of workday units envisaged in the plan.

Violation of the Collective Farm Statutes is a distortion of the Party and government policy in collective farm construction. The pilfering and squandering of collective farm products and livestock and the seizure of collective farm lands and hayfields are anticollective-farm, antistate actions. The Party and government decree of 1946 "On Measures to Eliminate Violations of the Collective Farm Statutes" stated that "officials of Soviet, Party and agricultural organizations and collective farm chairmen guilty of pilfering or illegally disposing of collective farm property, communally owned land or money shall be dismissed from their posts and put on trial as violators of the law and enemies of the collective farm system."

It must be said, however, that in certain areas this demand of the Party and government is by no means always met. Here is what an Izvestia correspondent reports from Pskov Province:

On Nov. 27, 1951, the province Soviet executive committee, on the initiative of Comrade Trushinsky, its vice-chairman, adopted an illegal resolution: to take away 36 hectares of peat bog from the Kalinin Collective Farm in Pushkinskiye Gory District and hand it over to the local brick factory. With Trushinsky's knowledge, a fictitious set of minutes of a general meeting of collective farmers, purportedly giving their consent to the transfer of the public land to the enterprise, was drawn up in the collective farm. When the forgery and the flagrant violation of the Collective Farm Statutes were discovered, the land was returned to the collective farm. But how were the culprits, the organizers of this harmful distortion of Party and government policy, punished? It turns out that the responsibility was borne solely by the Vice-Chairman of the Pushkinskiye Gory District Soviet Executive Committee, Comrade Lvov, who was reprimanded. ...

It is possible to cite quite a few cases which testify that agencies of the prosecutor's office of the Tatar Autonomous Republic, for example, exercise weak supervision over observance of the statutes and are slow in bringing to trial criminals who have violated the basic law of collective farm life. Thus ever since November, 1951, Comrade Zaripov, prosecutor of Sarmany District, has failed to bring before the court the case of Timirgalayev, Chairman of the 12th October Collective Farm, who without the collective farmers' consent sold grain, bought a vehicle and spent 80,000 rubles of collective farm money without going through bank channels. Comrade Mustafin, prosecutor of Bilyarsk District, has not brought to book Chernyshkin, former chairman of a collective farm, who squandered collective farm hay, grain and other property.

The Communist Party and the Soviet government demand that even the slightest violation of the Collective Farm Statutes be stopped vigorously and for good. Local Soviets and their executive committees are fully responsible to the Party and the state for strict observance of the statutes in all collective farms and by all officials. This obliges local Soviets to delve deeply into the affairs of every collective farm and to check on and inspect its work. ...

'FIRST-CLASS CONDITION.' (By A. Trofimov. Izvestia, May 24, p. 2. Complete text:) In Gorlovo District, Ryazan Province, is the large village of Klekotki. Klekotki has long been known for its beautiful pond which is two kilometers long and 100 meters wide. The pond was stocked with fish, and its banks became a favorite pleasure spot for the local inhabitants. The collective farm depended on the pond.

The Klekotki pond had shortcomings, however. It lacked a spillway, for example, and there were no weeping willows on its banks. Nor did it have a boathouse.

Surveyors came to Klekotki in 1948, and the following conversation took place between them and the chairman of the village Soviet executive committee:

"We are from the Ryazan Province Executive Committee."

"Pleased to meet you."

"We have been instructed to put your pond in first-class condition."

"Wonderful. You couldn't have picked a better time. We were just getting ready to write to the province center about it."

"Well, you won't have to write now. Everything will be taken care of."

And indeed, the surveyors walked along the bank of the pond the next morning, measured off something and, having measured, drove stakes into the ground with approximately the following notations: "Excavate to 4.8 meters," "Fill in 17 centimeters"—

The next day a rumor circulated in the village: tomorrow they will begin to let the water out of the pond. This spectacle attracted both children and grown people. The water was let out.

This was three and one-half years ago. No one has come to Klekotki from the province center since that time.

And only a few stakes recall the pond which once existed here.

But the pond is needed very much. Recently Comrade Nechayev, Chairman of the Klekotki Village Soviet, wrote a letter to Izvestia.

"The inhabitants of the village," he wrote, "have asked the Deputies and Gorlovo District and Ryazan Province organizations many times about restoring the pond. Our request has not been granted yet, however."

One would like to ask the Ryazan Province Executive Committee when the Klekotki pond will be restored.

ELECTRIC MACHINE AND TRACTOR STATION. (Izvestia, May 23, p. 1. Complete text:) Rostov-on-Don—The planning organization of the State Institute for Collective Farm Planning has completed plans for the Mechetinskaya Electric M.T.S., the first on the Don. The brigades of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for Agricultural Electrification and the G. M. Krzhizhanovsky Energetics Institute have afforded great help to the State Institute for Collective Farm Planning. The Mechetinskaya Electric M.T.S. will be fed by the Tsimlyanskaya Hydroelectric Center. This will be the first electric M.T.S. in the country to be used on irrigated lands.

Six electric M.T.S. will be set up altogether on the irrigated lands of Rostov Province; of these two, the Mechetinskaya and Dubentskaya, will begin operating this year.

Follow-up on a Pravda Report: 'HORSES ON A WAITING LIST.'* (Pravda, May 26, p. 2. Complete text:) The Altai Territory Executive Committee has discussed the feuilleton by N. Vorobyev and V. Zhuravsky entitled "Horses on a Waiting List," published in Pravda April 17, and has acknowledged the criticism of shortcomings in the organization of the manufacture and sale of harness and equipment in the territory to be correct.

For consistent failure to carry out the plan for producing harness the executive committee has reprimanded Comrade Bosov, director of the territory local industry department; Comrade Greineman, head of the production division of the territory local industry department; Comrade Lebedev, chairman of the board of the territory industrial council, and his deputy, Comrade Bessonov; and Comrade Allunan, chairman of the territory union of invalids' cooperatives and his deputy, Comrade Chervyakov. Comrade Treshchev, vice-chairman of the territory executive committee has [also] been reprimanded.

The territory executive committee has pointed out to Comrade Nikiforov, chairman of the territory union of consumers' cooperatives, the unsatisfactory organization of trade in harness and equipment.

The territory executive committee has evolved and approved concrete measures for increasing production, expanding the assortment and improving the quality of harness and equipment at enterprises of local and cooperative industry. Measures have been provided for expanding and organizing the production and repair of harness and equipment on the collective farms.

Transportation

From Readers' Letters: TOPICS OF THE DAY.—Keep Roads in Good Repair. (Pravda, May 27, p. 2. 800 words. Summary:) The Soviet state allocates tremendous funds for road building, as do the local Soviets. Road Machinery Stations have been set up in the republics, territories and provinces, and road work is becoming more highly mechanized every year. Comrade Chursin, Assitant Director of the Capital Construction Department of the Russian Republic Council of Ministers' Chief Highway Administration, has written to Pravda that road-building plans have been overfulfilled in Moscow, Tyumen, Vladimir, Gorky, Chkalov and several other provinces, thanks to the assistance given by enterprises and by the rural population.

At the same time readers report that some road organizations are not paying enough attention to roads and not checking on their condition. The lack of a bridge over Camel Creek on the Moscow Highway near the boundaries of Krasnoyarsk Territory and Irkutsk Province inconveniences drivers considerably, for example. Crossings are dangerous even in dry weather here, and when it rains one can often see stalled cars.

Drivers Comrades Mochalov, Sevryugin and Baklanov of Sanchursk District, Kirov Province, report that the road from Sanchursk to Ioshkar-Ola is in bad condition and that it has bumps and ruts along its whole length.

"After every trip on a road like that," the authors of the letter write, "vehicles spend a long time in the repair shop." ...

Neglect of roads often causes disruption of trucking schedules and hampers the supplying of towns and villages with the products they need.

Some letters report on the poor quality of road repairs. Comrade Chernyshev writes from Bryukhovetskaya District in Krasnodar Territory that the district highway department alone has spent more than 400,000 rubles to repair the Krasnodar-Yeisk road during the past three years alone, but that it still cannot handle normal traffic. This is because the repair work is poorly done. The road is covered with shell rock in spring, and by autumn this has been reduced to dust and blown away by the wind. Meanwhile there is stone in abundance not far from Krasnodar.

Road building and repair are a matter of great state importance. The collective and state farms, Machine and Tractor Stations, industrial enterprises and economic organizations should take an active part in this work. It is the duty of the local Soviets to organize socialist competition for fulfillment of road-building plans and exemplary road maintenance.

Letter to the Editor: ON POWER OF EXCAVATORS AND LOW TECHNICAL NORMS. (By Operators K. Dotsenko, Brigade Leader of LK-A Excavator No. 217 and N. Lemesin, Brigade Leader of LK-A Excavator No. 197. Pravda, May 23, p. 3. 500 words. Summary:) Railroad construction work is now done largely by mechanized columns equipped with first-class Soviet machines. The innovator-Stakhanovites' cooperation with the engineers and technical workers enables each excavator to be used to its full capacity.

Significant construction changes have been introduced in excavators produced ten or fifteen years ago. But although the power of the LK-A and other excavators has been greatly increased, the technical norms have remained the same as those established ten to 15 years ago.

What is the result? The average operator now fulfills such a norm in less than half the shift. The Stakhanovite excavator operators, applying rationalized methods of working the ground and observing all the technical rules of caring for the machines, work three to four norms during a shift without any particular effort.

The low technical norms do not stimulate the growth of productive labor and the use of machines at their full capacity. These norms do not correspond to reality.

It sometimes happens that a negligent operator taking advantage of the lack of control by the management, will stand around for half the shift without any reason, and then in the remaining time will easily overfulfill the shift norm. And such men are even considered leading workers—after all, they do overfulfill the norm. The existing low norms have become a serious obstacle to the further growth of the productive labor of the excavator operators and do direct damage to the state's interests.

We believe that such outdated technical norms in excavating work cannot be tolerated. They must be reviewed and raised. And the sooner this is done the better.

Domestic Trade

FOR CULTURED SERVICE TO THE CONSUMER.—Readers' Letters About Work of the Mail Order House. (Trud, May 24, p. 3. 1000 words. Condensed text:) ... Trade organizations are under obligation to satisfy customers' growing demands attentively and completely. The large Mail Order House

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. IV, No. 16. pp. 32-33.

in particular is called on to facilitate the successful performance of this task. Set up by the state trade network, the Mail Order House has hundreds of branches, distributes an enormous quantity of the most varied types of goods and can and ought to fill the orders of working people reliably.

However this newspaper receives numerous letters which show that there are serious shortcomings in the work of the Mail Order House. Comrade Martynenko of the city of Zaporozhye writes:

"I bought a brochure in which it was stated in black and white that the Ministry of Trade fills C.O.D. orders from all citizens. I decided to make use of the services of the Mail Order House and wrote for a catalogue. Three months have passed and I have received no reply to my letter."

Instructions approved by the ministry state that orders must be filled within ten days. This time limit is being flagrantly exceeded. ...

The local branches of the Mail Order House work in an even more unsatisfactory manner. Long and useless correspondence sometimes drags on between them and the central base. Here is what Comrade Pupkis, a miner at Mine No. 1-2 in Kiselevsk, Kemerovo Province, has to say:

"In January, 1951, I sent a money order to the Novosibirsk branch of the Mail Order House requesting them to send me a harmonium. Five months later I sent a reminder about my order. But I never received a reply. I then appealed to the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Trade, which sent a letter to the director of the Mail Order House, Comrade Andrianov. He in turn sent a threatening letter to Comrade Stadnichenko, manager of the Novosibirsk branch, who hastened to inform me that he had never received my money. I sent the stub of Money Order No. 176-1 to him. The business dragged out for a long time, and in the end I was informed by Comrade Rusinova, assistant manager of the Novosibirsk branch of the Mail Order House, that my money had miraculously been discovered on the books of the branch. Fourteen months have now passed, and I still can't get my harmonium."

This disgracefully careless work not only irritates people but sometimes causes them financial loss. Comrade Ryabkin of the city of Kolchugino in Vladimir Province, for example, tells of the following case:

"Wishing to buy a Baltic radio, I sent some money to the Mail Order House. A month later my money was returned to me, but it was 32 rubles short and no explanation of this was offered. I would rather have had a radio and not have incurred this unnecessary expense." ...

The quality of the goods produced by our industry is improving steadily. But at times, through the fault of the trade organizations, a customer receives poor-quality products. This is illustrated by a letter from Comrade Belova of the village of Shulgino in Vladimir Province:

"I asked the Mail Order House to send me a Star wrist watch. My order was filled promptly: I unpacked the watch at the post office, put it on and went home. Within an hour and a half it had stopped, and I was obliged to return it. Two months have passed, but I have received no reply and the watch has not been returned." ...

Socialist competition for excellent service to customers has developed among workers in state trade, and many organizations have considerably improved their trade technique.

The Mail Order House ought to borrow their valuable experience.

Our industry is producing better-quality goods every year, but the demands of the population are increasing too. It is the duty of trade organizations to give careful and cultured service to the Soviet consumer and to supply him with a wide assortment of excellent-quality goods.

Cities

Deputy's Forum: CITY BUILDING IN TURKMENIA. (By K. Tverdokhlebov, Vice-Chairman of Turkmenian Republic Council of Ministers and Deputy to Turkmenian Republic Supreme Soviet. Izvestia, May 21, p. 2. 1300 words. Summary:) Ashkhabad, Mary, Chardzhou, Tashauz, Bairam-Ali and other cities have grown during Soviet rule in Turkmenia and are continuing to develop. The oil workers' city of Nebit-Dag has grown up and Krasnovodsk, Kara-Bogaz-Gol and Cheleken have become large industrial centers.

In the last three years alone the working people of the Turkmenian capital have acquired more than 250,000 square meters of living space. Remarkable new buildings have been constructed for twenty secondary schools. The Turkmenian Republic Academy of Sciences, a university, agricultural and medical institutes and a Turkmenian opera and ballet theater are now open in Ashkhabad, and there are several public libraries and picture galleries. A polyclinic was recently built in conjunction with a hospital and maternity home; a hotel, a post office and telegraph building, a factory school, technicum and administration buildings have also been built. Workers' settlements have expanded in Keshi District. More than 300 large buildings are now under construction.

Construction work in the republic is assisted by first-class equipment. The growth of cities and populated points has been aided by the presence of useful minerals in Turkmenia, the processing of which has recently been widely developed. The task of the local Soviets and the directors of construction organizations is to use the rich material, technical and human resources more effectively and to build cities rapidly, durably, cheaply and beautifully.

The Ashkhabad City Soviet manifests much concern for its city. It checks up on how the city construction organizations spend their funds and watches the quality of their work. Construction problems are regularly discussed at city Soviet sessions and meetings of the executive committee.

However, not all the local Soviets in Turkmenia give enough attention to the construction and improvement of their cities. The Tashauz City Executive Committee, for example, is not only not interested in the affairs and needs of the new projects, but is slow in arranging for the financing of them. Comrade Atayev, chairman of the city executive committee, is not in the least disturbed by the fact that the city's streets are laid out without rhyme or reason. Machinery is poorly utilized at the construction sites. Republic organizations have been compelled to issue serious warnings to the officials of the Tashauz City Executive Committee and to take measures for putting the city's construction sites in order.

The cooperation of construction workers with scientists and architects has helped perfect the building of earthquake-proof stone buildings. Research has shown that Turkmenia possesses large amounts of local construction materials. New brick and other factories have been built. Amalgamated collective farms could prepare considerably more construction materials for their own needs. However, this work is not organized as it should be in some areas, particularly in Tashauz and Ashkhabad Provinces.

Improvement of the guidance of socialist competition is of tremendous importance in raising the tempos and improving the quality of construction work.

Local Soviets must study and widely disseminate the experience of leading workers. More equipment operators must be trained. Factory schools have been expanded for this purpose, but there is not one higher educational institution in Turkmenia which graduates engineers and equipment operators for construction work.

The central planning institutes do not provide new construction projects with plans and blueprints promptly. For example, in 1951 the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers' Committee on Affairs of the Arts assigned funds for the construction of the Ashkhabad Drama Theater, but as yet no draft plan exists. The plans that are received at some projects have basic shortcomings.

The 1952 plan for capital construction in Turkmenia by Union republic and republic ministries is considerably greater than the amount of work actually done in 1951. City construction work will be carried out on a large scale along the route of the Main Turkmenian Canal. In the next five to six years three province and 34 district centers will be built in Turkmenia, plus dozens of Machine and Tractor Stations and industrial enterprises.

The builders of the Turkmenian cities, together with all the people, are increasing their efforts in the struggle to fulfill

the plans on time. They will cope with the great tasks entrusted to them by the Party and government.

(Feuilleton)—THOUGHTLESS GUESTS. (By A. Ozersky and G. Ryklin. Izvestia, May 25, p. 3. 1000 words. Summary:) Why are they smiling?

This was the question asked by participants in the recent session of the Stalinsk City Soviet as they looked uncomprehendingly at a number of important guests who had honored the meeting with their presence.

Yes, just why were they smiling? There was nothing funny here, but their smiling faces seemed to say:

"Talk as much as you like, but it has nothing to do with us. Your flood of criticism is like water off a duck's back."

What was being discussed at the session?

Spring—or, to be more precise, the caprice of spring. Winter is quite lenient: she covers everything with a silver mantle. Snow conceals the shortcomings and ice fills in the gaps.

But spring, it must be remembered, is not beautiful because of flowers and buds alone.

"Spring shows everything," says the proverb. And indeed, she is a severe and painstaking critic who reveals shortcomings and gaps, puddles and mudholes, impassable roads and sidewalks.

It was spring that exposed those people who so blithely spoil the appearance of the young Siberian city of metalworkers and miners.

The snow melted from the streets and squares of Stalinsk and the beautiful apartment buildings turned out to be surrounded by mud. Some asphalted streets buckled, and rubbish came to view on others. Pedestrians had to leap from island to island to avoid falling into puddles, while others executed still more intricate ballet figures around other obstacles.

Participants in the session pointed to the smilers and accused them of a wrong attitude toward the city. They called them by their names, and we will do the same: they are Garbuzov, Fyodorov, Zakharov and Samsonova, heads of such respectable organizations as the Kuznetsk Heavy Industry Construction Trust, the Kuznetsk Basin Mining Construction Trust, the Kuznetsk Mining Construction Trust and the Industrial Road Construction Trust.

The latter organization, headed by Comrade Samsonova, blessed the city with a new boulevard which should have been built along the southern outskirts of the city near the railroad, but which Samsonova built through the center of the city. A stream of trucks from all over the Kuznetsk Basin now flows along the main streets. What is more, all the equipment of the builders, even including heavy caterpillar tractors and 60-ton excavators, rumbles through the city and ruins the streets.

Some guests are like that. Once they come on a temporary basis they have no qualms about ruining the furnishings. This is more or less the way the heads of the construction trusts behave in Stalinsk. They build factories, mines and homes—important state work— and yet they often forget about the people who live or will live in these homes and work or will work in these factories and mines. This is the reason for their careless attitude toward the city and—for their condescending smiles.

This is why Comrade Garbuzov (Kuznetsk Heavy Industry Construction Trust) does not bother to put in streets and sidewalks when he puts up housing and why there are no roads or sidewalks or water or sewage systems in the large settlements of Abashevo, Zyryanovka and Maloetazhnoye. This is why Comrades Fyodorov, Zakharov and Samsonova turned the once-beautiful settlement of Baidayevka into an impassable swamp.

This is why—But what is the point of enumerating everything that was uncovered by spring?

We would do better to look into another matter: perhaps the trusts lacked the money for sidewalks and water systems?

Speakers at the session cited interesting figures. Last year 1,300,000 rubles were allocated for improving Abashevo, Zyryanovka and Maloetazhnoye, but not a kopek of this was spent. The trusts have "saved" more than 30,000,000 rubles this way in recent years. This year 48,400,000 rubles were allocated, and only 4,500,000 were spent in the first quarter.

Some savings are worse than squandering. These are the type of "savings" which are ruining the entire city. The Soviet state allocates generous sums to improve the welfare of the miners and metalworkers, but this does not trouble the thoughtless guests

Speakers at the session reproached Comrade Tarasov, chairman of the city Soviet executive committee, for failing to make the heads of the trusts respect the city of Stalinsk and its inhabitants.

And they sat and smiled. These smiles are costing the city a lot of money!

TUNNELS UNDER MOSCOW RIVER. (Pravda, May 26, p. 2. Complete text:) Construction of the last section of the ring line of the Moscow subway, from Gorky Central Park of Culture and Rest to Belorussian Station, is continuing. Two stations, Krasnaya Presnya and Kiev Station, are being built on the new section, which will complete the Great Ring.

Work is in full swing on the Krasnaya Presnya Station, where a central hall 150 meters in length is being built. For the first time in Soviet subway construction the arches of this hall will be of light metal covered with gilding. Construction of the entrance vestibule has begun.

Kiev Station will be the last one, completing the Great Ring. There the builders are working on a ramp and the station tunnels.

The subway builders working on the underground section of the open line between Gorky Central Park of Culture and Rest and Kiev Station have gone beneath the bed of the Moscow River. Work is proceeding under very difficult geological conditions. There is a large inflow of subsoil waters, and powerful pumps are draining more than 800 cubic meters off to the surface every hour.

The builders are striving for high-speed work. Comrade Kafanov's brigade is proceeding at a rate of as much as 1.15 meters per shift, considerably exceeding the norm.

Here the tunnelers have to deal with hard limestone. Double charges have to be put into the drilled holes in order to blast it. The limestone is being used as building material.

On the line between Krasnaya Presnya and Kiev Stations, the builders of the last section of the ring have to construct two more tunnels under the Moscow River.

When the two new stations are put into commission trains will run over the entire 20-kilometer Great Ring line, linking seven stations.

Letter to the Editor: MORE CARE FOR WORKERS' SETTLEMENTS. (By Deputy to Molotov City Soviet G. Shadrin. Izvestia, May 23, p. 3. 400 words. Summary:) Molotov—Molotov Borough of the city of Molotov, formerly Motovilikha, has a glorious revolutionary past.

Under Soviet rule Motovilikha has been completely transformed. Where there was waste land before there are now white stone socialist workers' settlements with tall houses, a polyclinic, a hospital, a central kitchen serving restaurants, and a stadium. There are also streetcars and buses. The names of the streets recall the armed uprising of 1905.

But one must say frankly that the Molotov City Executive Committee is more concerned with the new part of the borough than with improving the old settlements.

The main streets of some of the settlements have not been paved yet. Entrance walks to schools, shops and kindergartens have not been built. Water mains and sewerage are still lacking. The population has to use the old well. One settlement does not have any street lighting or even the most primitive wooden sidewalks.

The Executive Committee of the Molotov Borough Soviet is trying to remove these shortcomings, but they do not have an adequate material base.

It is impossible to tolerate such a situation. The old workers' settlements of the city merit great concern and attention on the part of the city Soviet executive committee.

ON BANK OF LATORITSA RIVER. (Pravda, May 24, p. 2. 300 words. Summary:) Mukachevo—The city of Mukachevo is situated in Transcarpathia where the mountain river Latoritsa flows into the valley. The medieval castle on the steep slope testifies to the age of the city. Nevertheless, Mukachevo

is one of the youngest of Soviet cities. An event of great historic significance in the life of Mukachevo and of all Transcarpathia occured on Nov. 26, 1944. The First Congress of the People's Committees of the Transcarpathian Ukraine was held here; it adopted the Manifesto on the Unification of the Transcarpathian Ukraine with the Soviet Ukraine. Soviet Transcarpathia has been transformed into a flourishing territory.

Factories have been built and reconstructed. Fifteen schools, a teachers' college and technical colleges for trade and agriculture have been opened in Mukachevo. The working people spend their leisure in the theater, the local house of culture, the motion picture house, the stadium, the libraries and clubs.

(Editorial)—BUILD HOUSING QUICKLY AND WELL. (Izvestia, May 27, p. 1. 1300 words. Summary:) The tremendous, ever-increasing scope of housing construction in our country is one of the vivid manifestations of the tireless solicitude of the party of Lenin and Stalin and the Soviet government for raising the well-being of the people. In Soviet cities we long ago put an end to the workers' slums in the outskirts, which are characteristic of capitalist cities.

The tempo of housing construction is steadily increasing. The industrialization of building work is taking on greater and greater scope.

The majority of construction organizations in Minsk successfully fulfilled the housing construction plan in the first months of this year. The first quarterly plan was fulfilled 112% in the city as a whole.

However, there are still quite a few building organizations which do not fulfill their plans, which permit overexpenditures of funds and do not show concern for high quality of construction work.

Housing construction is not developing satisfactorily this year in Sverdlovsk. In four months less than 10% of the state plan has been fulfilled here. The quality of much of the construction work is low. In some houses there are serious defects in the brickwork and the painting and finishing work is carelessly done.

In Kharkov 67 tall houses are now being built on the main thoroughfares alone. However, work is behind schedule on almost all the construction sites.

Some local Soviets and their executive committees do not manifest enough concern for the construction of houses for working people. Problems of housing construction are rarely discussed at executive committee meetings and local Soviet sessions. The executive committees do not adequately check up on the utilization of various machines at construction sites or struggle for the introduction of advanced labor methods. The local Soviets have an exceptionally great role to play in fulfilling the housing construction plans, improving the quality of construction work and reducing cost.

The most important task of all builders and of all local Soviets is to build more quickly, better and more cheaply and to make fuller use of the tremendous funds which the state allots annually for improving the housing conditions of the working people.

Medicine and Public Health

Follow-up on Izvestia Reports: 'SUMMER VACATIONS FOR WORKERS.' * (Izvestia, May 27, p. 2. Complete text:) The editorial under the above heading and the article entitled "Is Yaroslavl Waiting for Summer?" † published in Izvestia May 11, criticized shortcomings in the work of the Yaroslavl City Soviet Executive Committee and its departments in organizing workers' summer vacations.

The city Soviet executive committee has acknowledged the criticism to be correct and has taken steps to eliminate the shortcomings noted in the newspaper.

A summer reading room is being built on Upper Island, as well as bathhouses and a playing field. Ice cream and soft drinks will be sold.

It has also been decided to open a public beach on the shore of the Volga in Kirov Borough and a children's beach on the Kotorostl River.

Culture

UNDER SHADOW OF KNYAGININY [PRINCESS] MONASTERY. (By Staff Correspondent B. Gorbunov. Izvestia, May 23, p. 2. Complete text:) Vladimir—The first scaffolding appeared on the walls of the Dmitriyev Cathedral in 1937. For 15 years this unique creation of Russian architecture was disfigured by it. Many fine settlements and large factories grew up during this time in Vladimir, but planks and boards still stuck out around the little building of the cathedral.

For seven years there has been an organization in Vladimir in charge of the restoration of architectural monuments. In the beginning it was called "The Special Planning and Restoration Workshop," but since 1950 the more impressive sign of "Special Scientific Restoration Production Workshop" has appeared on the building of the former Knyagininy Monastery, where this organization is housed.

This sign had only to appear for the workshop staff to double in size at once. Now there are dozens of people of the most varied professions in the workshop building. There are eight architects, a senior engineer, an engineer-economist, and a scientist. The staff also includes four superintendents, foremen, a bookkeeper, photographers, laboratory assistants, a storeman and, of course, a cashier. Only one thing is lacking here—workers. In some months there is scarcely one building worker for each administrator and specialist.

Vladimir Province is rich in valuable monuments of ancient Russian architecture. There are an especially large number of them in Suzdal, Vladimir, Bogolyubovo, Yuryev-Polsky, Alexandrov, Murom and Gorokhovets. In Suzdal alone there are 61 monuments. There are 23 in Vladimir. The workshop officials do have something to work on!

Each year the state allots the province millions of rubles for repairing and reconstructing the historical monuments. But they fall into careless hands. Of the 326 monuments there is not one which could be called completely restored. The officials of the scientific restoration workshop were concerned only with preparing plans and blueprints, and the Vladimir Citizen' s Construction Trust did the actual restoration work.

In 1945 it used 21% of the allotted funds, in 1946 29% and in 1949 10%. In 1950 the sign was changed but the work plan was unfulfilled as before.

Not troubling themselves with the restoration of ancient monuments, the Special Scientific Restoration Production Workshop switched over to the construction and repair of stores for the province local industry administration, the Chief Light Industry Marketing Administration and the Chief Confectionery Administration. Under the guise of restoring "monuments" the shop also beautifully repaired the building of the Vladimir Province Executive Committee. The executive committee forgot about its resolution of Jan. 18, 1950, which categorically forbade the shop to do any work not connected with the architecture of monuments.

The workshop was "restoring" the province executive committee building from June up to the end of last year, assigning almost half its workers and material and technical supplies to this work.

The orders of the executive committee are not the only reason for the shop's "seasonal work." With great difficulty it "wrings" from the province architectural department scarcely one-fifth of all its needs in lumber, brick and other building materials. Every year the approval of the shop's production plans is delayed and dozens of its specialists and highly skilled workers are doomed to months of idleness.

The restoration work in the province is done in a primitive way. There are not even norms or rates for many kinds of work here.

The officials of the Monuments Preservation Department of the Russian Republic Council of Ministers' Architecture Administration take a strange attitude toward the Vladimir shop.

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. IV, No. 19, p. 27.
† Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. IV, No. 19, p. 26.

They rarely look into the quiet cloisters of Knyagininy Monastery. And when they do look in (this is usually on fine summer days), their activity consists mainly in walking through historical places. The visitors walk around the monuments and return to the capital, as if they did not notice that the majority of the monuments, notwithstanding the large annual appropriations, look very bad.

PLENARY SESSION OF BOARD OF ALL-SOVIET SOCIETY FOR DISSEMINATION OF POLITICAL AND SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE. (Izvestia, May 23, p. 2. 200 words. Summary:) A plenary session of the board of the All-Soviet Society for the Dissemination of Political and Scientific Knowledge which opened May 22 in Moscow heard a report by Academician A. I. Oparin on the work being done by the society to propagandize the great construction projects of communism and the Stalinist plan for the transformation of nature. While stating that members of the society have delivered more than 90,000 lectures on this subject to about 8,000,000 people, the speaker noted that propaganda on the theme had not yet assumed the proper proportions and still lagged behind the demands of the workers, collective farmers and intelligentsia. Discussion of the report followed.

Science

DISCUSSION OF ASTRAL COSMOGONY. (Pravda, May 24, p. 2. Complete text:) A conference on astral cosmogony has been going on for the last few days in the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences. Yesterday the Presidium of the Academy discussed the results of the conference and heard a report on this question by Doctor of Physical and Mathematical Sciences V. V. Kukarkin.

The conference showed that Soviet astrophysics and stellar astronomy had amassed a quantity of factual information on stars, stellar systems and interstellar matter.

Guided by the method of dialectical materialism, Soviet cosmogony has achieved considerable successes.

The resolution passed by the conference took note of the fruitful thesis that the process of group star formation in the Galaxy is continuing at the present time. This thesis was first proposed by V. A. Ambartsumyan on the basis of his theory of the existence and breaking up of astral associations.

The further development of the idea of continuing star formation is one of the most important achievements of Soviet astral cosmogony. Academician G. A. Shain's studies of the relations between interstellar dust formation and stars are of basic importance. The researches of Academician V. G. Fesenkov lead to the important conclusion that groups of dwarf stars are formed in interstellar dust clouds in the form of star chains.

The resolution took note of useful work by a number of Soviet scientists. It also laid down the basic directions for further research work.

The Presidium of the Academy of Sciences approved the conference resolution and framed measures to develop research in the field of cosmogony.

STUDY OF DIALECTS. (Pravda, May 27, p. 2. Complete text:) A scientific conference has been held in the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences' Institute of Linguistics on the study of various dialects of the Russian language and the compilation of dialect atlases. Academician V. V. Vinogradov, who spoke at the opening of the conference, stressed that Comrade J. V. Stalin's works on linguistics point the way to a new, truly scientific approach to the solution of basic problems of dialectology. In addition to research on Russian dialects Soviet scientists have now gathered extensive material on dialects of the Ukrainian, Belorussian, Georgian, Armenian, Tadzhik, Azerbaidzhanian, Uzbek, Yakut and many other languages of the peoples of our country.

Participants in the conference discussed the results of the year's work as well as plans for forthcoming dialectological expeditions. Reports were heard on the Russian dialect Atlases of the central and northwestern provinces. Dialects have been studied in almost 1000 populated points in the central provinces alone. Both Atlases include more than 500 maps and provide new material for studying the history of the Russian language. The conference made a preliminary summary of the study of dialects in Orel, Bryansk, and Voronezh Provinces. This summer a large group of students and graduates of higher educational institutions will take part in an expedition to study the Kursk-Orel dialect. Groups of linguists will also travel to Smolensk, Velikiye Luki, Kalinin and other provinces.

REASONS FOR COLD WEATHER IN MAY.—Interview With Doctor of Geographical Sciences K. I. Kashin, Director of Central Weather Forecasting Institute. (Izvestia, May 24, p. 2. Complete text:) The warm weather which occurred in the European part of the Soviet Union at the end of April changed to cold and windy weather in the first ten days of May, and a short period of rising temperatures was followed by a second cold wave about May 15.

A cyclonic storm began to develop over the Baltic republics May 6 and moved across the central black-earth provinces to the South Urals. Thus, the center of the cyclone moved at more southerly latitudes than usual: at about 53 degrees north latitude. The center of the cyclone was near Orel on May 7 and near Ufa on May 8. At this time cold air covered the northern section of the European part of the country. In the western part of this eastward-moving cyclone north winds arose and later became stronger, bringing in air which had earlier been over the Barents Sea and was very cold. Because this air moved southward rapidly it did not become warmer. The cold air currents were strong and occupied a considerable layer of the atmosphere.

The cyclone, which was near Ufa on May 8, caused snow and strong winds in the South Urals. It must be pointed out that May frosts occurred in 1951 also, but such weather is a relatively rare phenomenon.

In the next two to three days cyclones are expected to develop along the northern seas, roughly from the Icelandic region to the Barents and Kara Seas. They will prevent cold air from reaching more southerly latitudes. A gradual rise in temperature is now expected in the central provinces of the European part of the Soviet Union. Because there will be no north winds the air will begin to warm gradually as the underlying surface, i.e., the earth, is warmed by the rays of the sun.

Scientists at the Central Weather Forecasting Institute are now making a careful study of the more far-reaching reasons for the cold wave observed. The results of this research will permit still more accurate weather forecasts in the future.

History

SESSION ON CRIMEAN HISTORY. (Izvestia, May 24, p. 2. Complete text:) Simferopol—A session of the Division of History and Philosophy and the Crimea branch of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences devoted to the history of the Crimea opened today in Simferopol.* Scholars from Moscow, Leningrad and Crimea Province are attending. A short introductory speech was made by Academician B. D. Grekov, Learned Secretary of the Division of History and Philosophy. At the evening session Prof. B. A. Rybakov, Doctor of Historica Sciences, gave a report on serious shortcomings and tasks in the study of Crimean history. Corresponding Member of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Architecture V. D. Blavatsky gave a report on shortcomings in the study of ancient Crimean history. Discussion developed on the reports.

Education

(Editorial)—SOVIET STUDENTS. (Izvestia, May 23, p. 1. 1200 words. Condensed text:) ... The number of students in our country is constantly increasing. In 1940, 812,000 persons studied in Soviet higher educational institutions. In the coming academic year 1,416,000 students will be enrolled.

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* [For Grekov's summation of the results of this session see Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. IV, No. 19, pp. 3-4.]

In both number of higher educational institutions and number of students receiving instruction the Soviet Union has long occupied first place in the world. ...

Examinations in the higher educational institutions of Moscow, Leningrad, Sverdlovsk, Kiev, Minsk, Kharkov and other cities testify that this year the students' knowledge has become still more comprehensive and complete. This is the result of the higher scholarly and ideological standard of lecturing in the higher schools and the improvement in the quality of lectures, seminars and practical studies. ...

It is essential that the high demands made of students be combined with fairness and impartiality in assessing their knowledge. Liberalism, which results in too generous grading, is as harmful to the work of the higher schools as captiousness about trifles.

This year the higher educational institutions of our country are turning out 220,000 young specialists. The country will receive more than 30,000 engineers, 70,000 teachers, 15,000 agronomists, equipment operators and zootechnicians. Thousands of graduates of higher technical schools will go to the Stalinist construction projects of communism to take part in building the world's greatest hydroelectric power stations and irrigation systems.

Before each graduate, each young specialist, lies a vast field of labor activity, a remarkable life of creative research and interesting work in the field of his chosen profession. Graduates of Soviet higher schools readily go wherever they are most needed and can be of most use.

The young specialists go to the most diverse regions of our country to take up their practical work. It is highly important that local Soviets and economic officials show solicitude for the new cadres of the Soviet intelligentsia, help them settle down in their new locations and create all the conditions necessary for the success of their work.

NEW HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. (By N. Kondratyeva. Izvestia, May 27, p. 2. 150 words. Condensed text:) ... In the forthcoming academic year more than 240,000 persons will be admitted to higher educational institutions and more than 130,000 to evening and correspondence institutions and branches. A number of new higher educational institutions will open by the beginning of the academic year. An institute of public utility engineers will open in Stalingrad, technical institutes in Taganrog, Ryazan, Izhevsk and Tomsk, a veterinary institute in Semipalatinsk and an agricultural institute in Kutaisi. Eight normal schools are being reorganized as pedagogical institutes, and new pedagogical institutes will open in Balashov, Michurinsk, Velikiye Luki, Maikop and other places. ...

SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS. (Izvestia, May 21, p. 2. 600 words. Summary:) Final, school-leaving and matriculation examinations began May 20 in the country's schools. About 12,000,000 pupils will take examinations in the Russian Federation alone. More than 540,000 pupils will take examinations in Moscow.

The tenth graders wrote compositions on the following themes: "A. M. Gorky's Novel 'Mother' as a Work of Socialist Realism;" "The Theme of the Homeland in N. A. Nekrasov's Poetry;" "Pavel Korchagin and Oleg Koshevoi."

The fourth graders, who took examinations for the first time, wrote a dictation. The ninth graders had examinations in history and geography, all receiving excellent and good marks in geography.

Examinations also began May 20 in the young workers' schools. More than 5500 young workers and employees of the capital, who received secondary education without stopping work, are taking matriculation examinations.

Leningrad—Examinations have begun in all Leningrad schools. In Oktyabr Borough Boys' School No. 256 the fourth grade had written work in the Russian language; grade 9-B was examined in geometry. Stalin Borough Girls' School No. 105 had examinations in the fourth, fifth and tenth grades.

Kiev—Final and school-leaving examinations were held May 20 in all 134 schools of the city. More than 80,000 pupils were examined. The fourth graders of Iv. Franko Boys' Secondary School No. 92 wrote a dictation "In a Pioneer Camp;" of the 28 boys 26 received grades of good and excellent.

The seventh graders wrote compositions; the ninth graders were also given written work. The graduating students were given three themes: "On the Call to Revolutionary Struggle in the Works of T. G. Shevchenko;" "On the Liberating Mission of the Soviet Army in the Patriotic War According to A. Gonchar's Novel 'The Standard-Bearers';" and "On the Friendship of Peoples in the Works of Ukrainian Writers."

More than 4,500,000 pupils will take final and school-leaving examinations in Ukraine schools.

The Arts

Theater: 'THE SINGER OF FREEDOM' ON THE ESTONIAN STAGE. (By Composer G. Ernesaks. Pravda, May 23, p. 3. 1100 words. Summary:) Tallinn—Eugen Kapp's opera "The Singer of Freedom," which was awarded a Stalin Prize, is the first Estonian opera about our Soviet era. Its theme is the establishment of Soviet rule in Estonia and the struggle for the liberation of the young republic from the Hitlerite occupiers.

"The Singer of Freedom" was first performed about two years ago; at that time the public, while approving of the theme of the opera and of certain successful scenes, pointed out fundamental shortcomings in the new work. The composer accepted the critical remarks in a creative way and set about reworking the opera. He wrote new arias and scenes; the music became more melodic.

The central character in the opera, the poet Rayu, a staunch fighter against fascism, is first seen among the exultant people on the first anniversary of Soviet Estonia. The lyrical scene of the poet's meeting with his beloved is merged with the joy of the working people. Then, together with the people, the poet defends his motherland against the Hitlerite occupiers and takes part in the defense of the city of Tallinn. Captured by the fascists, he remains true to his people.

The choruses in the opera are particularly successful: the women's chorus in the holiday scenes, the men's chorus when the partisans stop in the forest, the courageous fighting songs of the Soviet Army.

The folk basis of the music, its closeness to Estonian song and dance, makes the opera clear and understandable, gives it color and brilliance.

The work of the Estonian Theater contributed to the success of "The Singer of Freedom," as also did the support of public organizations in Estonia.

Unfortunately the Board of the U.S.S.R. Union of Soviet Composers, which gave creative help in the reworking of the first version of the opera, did not manifest the necessary interest at the most crucial time, when the new version of the opera was being staged. Despite the fact that the opera had already played in the Estonian Theater, it was not included in the works performed in December, 1951, at the plenary session of the Board of the Union of Soviet Composers and nothing was said about it in General Secretary Comrade T. Khrennikov's report on the question of writing operas.

E. Kapp's new opera, with all its merits, still calls for some criticism. A predominance of recitative, particularly in the role of the Bolshevik Kaldema, is noted in some scenes. This impoverishes the musical language and limits the singers. In the libretto, P. Rummo ascribes words and thoughts to certain characters without consideration of the concrete historical situation.

But these reproofs, although important, are exceptions. The vitality of the theme and the ideological and artistic merit of "The Singer of Freedom" testify that the new Soviet opera is a musical work close to the people.

THE SUMMER SEASON.—Premières in Moscow Theaters. (Sovetskoye iskusstvo, May 17, p. 2. Complete text:) The season is coming to a close in the theaters of the capital.

In May and June a number of Moscow theaters will show the spectators their own new works. Thus, for example, the Young Communist League Theater will put on the play "Alyosha Peshkov" by O. Forsh and I. Gruzdev, produced by A. Muratov, a student at the Stanislavsky State Theater Arts Institute. The play will be staged by V. Shestakov and young artist

V. Pogodin. The role of Alyosha Peshkov will be played by young artist S. Yakovlev.

The Mossovet Theater will have two new plays: "Citizen of France" by D. Khrabrovitsky (produced by Director Ye. Stradomskaya) and A. Kakhkhar's play "Shelkovoye Syuzane" ("On New Ground"). The play is produced by Yu. Shmytkin.

The A. S. Pushkin Drama Theater will show two new plays. The young director Ye. Yevdokimov will produce "Sailors Fight for Peace" by I. Kramov and L. Volynsky, a play about the French sailors' heroic fight for peace during the Civil War; the play is staged by V. Talalai. Director I. Tumanov is finishing work on S. Alyoshin's play "Gogol."

In May the Theater of Satire will show K. Finn's comedy "Family Happiness," produced by Director Yu. Yegorov and G. Pobedonostsev. Work is being completed on A. Simukov's comedy about the patriotic labor of Soviet youth "Beautiful Girls." This play will be produced by N. Mokin and V. Medvedev, student directors of the theater arts institute.

The K. S. Stanislavsky and Vl. I. Nemirovich-Danchenko Theater is finishing rehearsals of T. Khrennikov's opera "In the Storm." First performed in 1939 under the direct supervision of Vl. I. Nemirovich-Danchenko, the opera is now being revived by Directors N. Zlatogorov and N. Kemarskaya.

In the summer the Operetta Theater will show V. Solovyov-Sedoi's operetta "Most Cherished," which is about the new collective farm intelligentsia. It will be produced by Director I. Tumanov.

FILMS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.—Interview With U.S.S.R. Minister of Cinematography I. G. Bolshakov. (Komsomolskaya pravda, May 25, p. 3. Complete text:) Komsomolskaya pravda has published readers' letters criticizing the work of the Ministry of Cinematography in the matter of making films for children and young people. The Young Communist League officials and Young Pioneer leaders expressed concern over the fact that the motion picture, a highly important and popular art, has recently not met the demands of Soviet young people and children.

In an interview with our correspondent, U.S.S.R. Minister of Cinematography I. G. Bolshakov recognized the demands of the young people as just and said that Soviet cinematography had paid and would continue to pay much attention to making films for children and young people.

We recall that at various times Soviet cinematography has filmed almost all the best works of literature for young people and children. For instance, there were the films "Timur and His Gang," "How the Steel Was Tempered," "The Lonely White Sail," "Son of the Regiment," "Stone Flower," "The Sun of the Steppes" and others.

Such films as "Gorky's Childhood," "In the World," "My University Days," "Zoya," "Brother of a Hero," "Gavrosh," "Capt. Grant's Children," "Fifteen-Year-Old Captain," "The Little Golden Key," "There Once Was a Girl" and many others continue to enjoy successful runs in our country.

In recent years such films as "Bon Voyage!" "They Have a Homeland," "The Red Tie," "Girl in the First Grade," "The Elephant and the Rope," "Hello, Moscow!" "Marite" and "Pvt. Alexander Matrosov" have been produced for young people and children.

It is also known that historical and biographical films play an important role in educating young people and school children. In these pictures, designed for all ages, the young spectators see outstanding characterizations of figures in Russian science and culture—Przhevalsky, Shevchenko, Musorgsky, Pavlov, Zhukovsky, Michurin, Popov, Pirogov, Mikulkha-Maklai and Rainis.

Furthermore, it is necessary to note the large number of popular science films made in recent years for our young spectators: "Story of the Forest," "Story of a Wheel," "The Universe," "Along an Animal Trail," "Animal Theater" and many others, and also a whole series of documentary pictures, among which one should particularly note the film "Youth of the World," which was awarded a Stalin Prize and an International Peace Prize.

Three new color documentary films have recently been released to the country's theaters: "We Are for Peace," "Youth Sports Festival" and "Song of Youth," which tell about the Third Festival of Youth and Students in Berlin in 1951.

The Animated Cartoon Film Studio puts out many interesting color cartoon films every year for children of school and preschool ages.

The Minister noted that the possibilities of turning out more films for children and young people are limited by the serious shortage of ideologically and artistically good scripts.

Comrade Bolshakov spoke further of what the Soviet film workers are now working on and of plans for the near future.

All the film studios are now working on new films for children and school youngsters. Director K. Yarmatov of the Tashkent Studios has finished an interesting children's film story "Pakhta-oi," about what cotton means to the country. Director N. Lebedev of the Leningrad Studios is finishing production of a new color feature film, "The First Whistle" (based on I. Vasilenko's novel "The Little Star"), about the life and work of students of a trade school.

At the M. Gorky Film Studios Director A. Rou is shooting the color film "May Night," based on Gogol's tale, in two versions—three-dimensional and two-dimensional. The children's adventure film "Tomorrow the Ocean," telling about children's love and yearning for the sea and its romance, is going into production at the Kiev Studios.

Our school children will also be greatly interested in such color feature films as the adventure film from the life of the Soviet border guards "At a Distant Post" (Director K. Yudin), the fairy-tale film based on the folk tale of Sadko (Director A. Ptushko), "Pushkin" (Director S. Gerasimov), "Dzerzhinsky" (Director M. Kalatozov) and others.

Gogol's comedy "The Inspector General" is being filmed at the Moscow Studios under the direction of V. Petrov.

Moreover, this year the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Cinematography is planning to release a number of feature films produced by the best theaters of our country. The first two such films, "Truth is Good, but Happiness is Better" and "Enough Simplicity in Every Wise Man," produced by the Maly Theater, have already been released.

The popular science film studios are making many new and interesting pictures. The color sports film "Story of Hunting," made by the young directors A. and Ye. Alekseyev, will be shown soon. Work is being completed on the color film taken in the Arctic "Among the Ice Floes of the Ocean" (Director A. Zguridi). Besides this the films "What a Ray of Light Tells," "Winged Defense" and others will be made. The making of pictures devoted to the work of great Russian artists will also be continued.

Documentary cinematography will make a series of children's pictures, including a long color film, "Young Pioneers' Summer." As before, the "Young Pioneer Life" newsreel will come out regularly.

Besides the full-length feature film "The Snow Maiden," the Animated Cartoon Film Studio this year will produce "Kashtanka," "Alenka's Little Flower," "Flight to the Moon," "The Magic Shop," "Golden Hands," "The Magic Brush," "Brave Pak" and "The Liu Brothers."

Of the already completed cartoon films, the pictures "Friends and Comrades," "Sarmiko," "Zai and Chik" and "Validub" will soon be on the screen.

The country's film studios are preparing new high-quality film scripts on themes for children and young people. Among them are "Scarlet Shoulder Straps" (based on B. Izyumsky's novel of the same name) and "First Name" (based on I. Likstanov's novel). V. Lyubimova and M. Prilezhayeva are writing a script for "Be Prepared!"—about Soviet Young Pioneer school children; L. Kassil and M. Polyanovsky are working on the script for "Street of the Young Son," based on their novel of the same name; V. Kazanskaya is writing the script for "The Golden Apples," about Young Pioneer Michurinists; V. Spirina is writing the script for "Northern Lights" about the feat of the Pomor Gagarka; L. Geraskina is adapting her play "Matriculation Exam" for the screen; Ya. Semyonov and A. Rozen are working on the script for "School of Courage" (based on A. Gaidar's "School"); A. Zhukov and A. Talanov are writing the script for "Scouts of the Green Country" (based on G. Tushkan's novel of the same name); A. Musatov is working on the script for "House of Grief," based on his

novel of the same name); M. Erzinkyan and A. Ovanesova are writing the script for "On the Sevan Shore" (based on Ananyan's novel of the same name); V. Shklovsky is working on the script for the film "Chuk and Gek" (from A. Gaidar's novel).

This year the young filmgoer will see many interesting new Soviet feature, documentary, popular science and animated cartoon films.

REVIEW OF WORKS BY LENINGRAD COMPOSERS. (Izvestia, May 23, p. 1. Complete text:) Leningrad (Tass) —About 170 works written by Leningrad composers last year will be performed at the review of new music which began May 22.

The Large Philharmonic Hall was the scene May 22 of the first performances of the vocal and symphonic poem "Man From the High Mountain," by G. Ustvolskaya, the overture "In Korea" by Ye. Sirotkin, "Dances for Symphony Orchestra" (First Suite), by Armenian Republic Honored Artist L. Khodzha-Einatov. Also performed at the concert were new songs by Stalin Prize Winners V. Solovyov-Sedoi, G. Nosov, D. Pritsker and M. Ferkelman.

UKRAINE REPUBLIC STATE DANCE ENSEMBLE. (Pravda, May 27, p. 2. 125 words. Excerpt:) Kiev—A Ukraine Republic State Dance Ensemble has been formed with the object of popularizing Ukrainian national dances and those of the peoples of fraternal republics in the Ukraine. The ensemble consists of more than 100 persons, most of them formerly members of amateur dance groups. ...

Literature

Criticism and Review: SETTING OUT ON GREAT PATH OF LIFE. (By S. Smirnov. Pravda, May 25, p. 3. 1000 words. Summary:) The three novels by Vladimir Belyayev—"The Old Fortress," "On the Banks of the Dniester" and "City by the Sea," which comprise a trilogy, tell of the childhood, adolescence and youth of their heroes.* From the very first pages the reader follows with emotion the fate of the three boys—Vasil Mandzhura, a printer's son, and his friends Peter Maremukha and Yuzik Starodomsky who live in a little border town in Southern Ukraine.

The fates of the three boys have not a little in common with the fate of Pavel Korchagin. They are almost Pavel's contemporaries and belong to the generation whose childhood and youth were illuminated by the fires of revolutionary battles, whose consciousness was formed in the period of the cruel and stubborn battle against the overt and secret enemies of the young Soviet republic. But the main point of the story shows how the characters of the future Bolsheviks were steeled in battle and labor.

The stormy and important events of the revolutionary years enter into the motley world of the main hero—11-year-old Vasil Mandzhura. The city is occupied by Petlura's men. The boys are chance witnesses to the shooting of the Bolshevik Sergushin. The sight of the fearless Communist, and the last words he throws in the face of his executioners, make an indelible impression on the children.

The Red Army destroys Petlura's bands and the doors of the Soviet school are opened to Vasil and his friends. A new and interesting stage of life begins, to which the second book of the trilogy, "On the Banks of the Dniester" is devoted.

The enemy is defeated, but the struggle continues. Foreign secret agents are active in the little town, and the enemies slip armed bands across the border. The Young Communist League units formed in the city more than once rise to assist the border guards, and young Vasil Mandzhura takes an active part in this struggle.

The struggle against the enemies of the Soviet state is organically linked with another major theme in the book—the theme of free, joyful labor for the good of the Soviet motherland.

Vasil Mandzhura and his friends, coming from workers' families, choose their path in life without hesitation. They dream of becoming workers. And when a factory school is opened in the only small factory in the town, Vasil and his comrades are among the first to attend.

The third part of the trilogy—"City by the Sea"—takes the reader to a little town near the Sea of Azov, where foundryman Vasil Mandzhura, cabinetmaker Maremukha and machinist Bobyr came to work in a factory after finishing their factory school studies.

The reader parts with the heroes of "The Old Fortress" at the very beginning of their labor path. But he is firmly convinced that a great and interesting life awaits all of these young people and that, whatever experiences may befall them, they will not disgrace the honor of a Soviet worker, of a young Bolshevik.

And when we meet the heroes again in the epilogue of the book, 20 years later, in the same little town with its old fortress, we see that the three friends have been true to the vow of loyalty to the Soviet republic which, in childhood, they had solemnly made over the grave of the Communist who was shot in the old fortress by Petlura's men.

Criticism and Review: GOOD BOOK ON YOUNG PIONEERS. (By V. Karpova. Pravda, May 19, p. 2. 1000 words. Summary:) Among the truthful artistic works on important contemporary themes in the great children's literature of our country is the children's writer V. Oseyeva's novel "Vasyok Trubachev and His Comrades" (State Children's Publishing House), which was awarded a Stalin Prize in 1951. This book teaches true comradeship, cultivates an understanding of Young Pioneer honor and strengthens the children's love for the motherland.

The action of the first part of the novel takes place on the eve of the great patriotic war. The life of the school is depicted in all its complexity and richness, in its ties with the people and the whole country. The brilliantly described episodes of school life seem insignificant at first glance, but it is just these events which help reveal the moral nature of the Soviet children and their understanding of friendship, duty and honor.

The events of the second part of the book take place in the Ukraine, where the children go for summer vacation from the small town near Moscow, and where the war finds them. The children's characters are formed and steeled in the fire of the great patriotic war and, at the same time the principles of Soviet education are tested.

The young heroes of the book become eyewitnesses of and participants in the war to the death against the invaders which the people of the Red Star Collective Farm, who have sheltered the children, are waging. The writer does not exaggerate the role of her little heroes in this struggle. Their courageous patriotic behavior is portrayed as a natural result of correct communist education.

V. Oseyeva's great service is her creation of a positive hero—our young contemporary. Vasyok Trubachev is an ordinary little boy, playful and hot-tempered, but noble, brave and strong-willed. In the beginning he is in no way distinguished from his schoolmates. In the second part of the novel Vasyok Trubachev grows up into a real leader of the children.

The children's group described in the novel consists of children who are most varied in their characters, interests and inclinations. The writer has succeeded in making each child an individual. In the children's group described by V. Oseyeva, as in every group of Soviet people, the feeling of comradeship is highly developed.

V. Oseyeva's book is distinguished from many contemporary children's books in that the adult heroes, the parents and Ukrainian collective farmers who sheltered the children, are varied and convincing portrayals.

The writer truthfully depicts the friendship between the older and younger generations of Soviet people, revealing the role of the Party and Young Communist League in the education of Young Pioneers.

V. Oseyeva's novel has one common shortcoming, so characteristic of many contemporary works about school—the depiction of the teacher is not successful. Sergei Nikolayevich does not have concrete, individual characteristics. In order

* Vladimir Belyayev, "The Old Fortress," A trilogy, Ukraine State Literature Publishing House, Kiev, 1951.

to enliven him somewhat, the writer introduces another character into the story—the teacher's sick father—but he proves to be superfluous.

A great service of the writer is her ability to construct a dynamic, absorbing plot. The book shows serious work on language, although here and there one comes across clichés.

The author's growing craftsmanship is noticeable if one compares the first and second parts.

The depth of ideological content in the book, the clarity of the characters, the symmetry and truthfulness of plot and the expressive language have made V. Oseyeva's novel one of the favorite books of Soviet children.

CONCERNING A CERTAIN DISSERTATION. (By V. Klyushnikov. Uchitelskaya gazeta, May 21, p. 3. 2700 words. Condensed text:) For two days the academic council of the Department of Russian Language and Literature of the Moscow Province Pedagogical Institute discussed a dissertation by graduate student V. I. Glukhov on certain characteristics of the realism of Pushkin and Gogol. ...

What the candidate wrote and said about Pushkin and Gogol in his dissertation and from the rostrum is in flagrant contradiction to our understanding of these beloved writers' creative work. ...

Belinsky wrote that such poets as Gogol, Pushkin and Lermontov can appear only among peoples whose function it is to play a historic role in human destiny. Chernyshevsky called Gogol a man who pushed the nation forward. It was with a feeling of deep pride that the country recently celebrated the 100th anniversary of the great writer's death. Pravda, the central organ of our Party, wrote that we need Gogols and Shchedrins. The Soviet government erected a monument to Gogol. But a graduate of a Moscow higher educational institution is reluctant to speak about the great writer's strong points and lays particular emphasis on his narrow-mindedness, stressing the characteristics that the writer "did not possess." "Gogol took a step in the direction of the people," the dissertation says. And it was not by chance that one of the opponents reacted violently to this phrase.

"This is slander of Gogol," he said. "Gogol was never aloof from the people, because he is a writer of the people. He lived the life of the people and thought their thoughts."

The author of the dissertation adopts a haughty attitude toward other names dear to us as well. According to him, Belinsky constantly made mistakes and was in error. ...

The Decembrists, in our author's opinion "took an uncritical approach to the experience of the Western European revolutionary movement" and were "political romanticists carried away by the illusion of their own ideas." ...

The author of the dissertation speaks without a trace of respect and in a disagreeably destructive tone about Soviet literary scholars. To listen to him one would think that he alone had mastered the scientific method of research. Prof. Blagoi does not understand Pushkin, nor did Brodsky. Meilakh did not succeed in penetrating into the writer's creative processes, and Timofeyev "will never reach correct theoretical theses." ...

Together with the administration and the faculty, the institute's Party and Young Communist League organizations bear great responsibility for the ideological training of students, the improvement in the quality of lectures and the over-all education of cadres. They must discuss what took place in the literature department and reveal the causes which led to such serious errors in the ideological training of scholars.

V. V. MAYAKOVSKY'S ASHES MOVED. (Pravda, May 23, p. 4. Complete text:) Yesterday the urn containing the ashes of the great Soviet poet V. V. Mayakovsky was moved to Novodevichy Cemetery. Since April, 1950, it had rested in the crematorium.

A memorial meeting was held at the cemetery. Numerous representatives of the literary public and prominent figures in the arts, as well as Alexandra Alexeyevna, the poet's mother, and Lyudmila Vladimirova, his sister, were present.

N. S. Tikhonov, Deputy General Secretary of the Union of Soviet Writers, made a speech.

Press and Publishing

SERIOUS SHORTCOMINGS IN WORK OF PUBLISHING HOUSES. (By I. Lukin, Staff Correspondent for Kirgiz Republic. Pravda, May 22, p. 2. 900 words. Summary:) Frunze—The Kirgiz State Publishing House publishes the Marxist-Leninist classics, acquaints local readers with the classics of world and Russian literature and the works of Soviet writers and puts out popular industrial literature, textbooks and scientific works.

However, the people of the republic are not satisfied with the work of the local publishing house; its work is still far from meeting the growing needs of the working people. The publishing house regularly fails to fulfill its plans; it takes little notice of what is new. There are few editions of political literature and belles-lettres. The publishing house often handles books by local authors in an uncritical way and prepares their works for publication clumsily. There are many errors in the textbooks published.

Last year an anthology for the ninth and tenth grades was published which contained many serious errors and distortions. When a new edition was put out at the suggestion of the bureau of the Kirgiz Party Central Committee there were again misprints, mistakes, distortions and omissions of words and sentences.

The basic cause for the serious shortcomings in the work of Kirgiz publishing house is the weakness of the editorial staff. Some of the workers in the publishing house do not have the necessary experience and training. The publishing house violates the Bolshevist principle of choosing cadres, often taking on people who have failed in other places.

Along with original works many translations are published in Kirgizia. The translator is one of the leading figures in the publishing house. But the cadres of translators here do not grow, are not trained. As a rule the editors do translating. Some of them are so loaded down with translations that they do not have time for editing literature. The same person will be given political and scientific works and belles-letters to translate. At the same time, specialists, scientists and teachers in the higher educational institutions are not used for translating.

Because of the shortage of qualified translators, there are serious shortcomings and mistakes in the republic newspapers and magazines as well as in the publishing house. Furthermore the Kirgiz Party and Soviet agencies are little concerned with training and educating cadres of translators.

Two years ago the bureau of the Kirgiz Party Central Committee heard a report by the publishing house, disclosed shortcomings and framed measures for eliminating them. But this resolution was not carried out. The Kirgiz Party Central Committee's propaganda and agitation department considers the publishing house a secondary organization and sends poor and sometimes incompetent workers there. The Kirgiz Party Central Committee has not taken measures to strengthen the management of the publishing house.

In order really to improve the work of the Kirgiz State Publishing House it is necessary to strengthen it with qualified cadres.

Follow-up on a Pravda Report: 'BOOKS ABOUT NATIVE LAND.'* (Pravda, May 21, p. 2. Complete text:) The editorial board of the Young Guard Publishing House has discussed the article published under the above heading in Pravda April 1, 1952. All participants in the conference observed that the Pravda article is of great assistance to the publishing house in its work on the "Our Homeland" geography series and correctly points out serious shortcomings in books of the series.

The publishing house is taking steps to eliminate the shortcomings and raise the ideological and artistic level of books in the "Our Homeland" series.

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. IV, No. 13, p. 37.

Radio–TV

Party Life: IMPROVE DIRECTION OF LOCAL RADIO BROADCASTING. (By M. Serebryakova and D. Sitnikov. Pravda, May 21, p. 2. 900 words. Summary:) It cannot be said that the Karelo-Finnish Republic Radio Broadcasting Committee does not publicize the lives of the republic's lumbermen. It does, but extremely poorly and haphazardly. One broadcast dealt with the labor exploits of two lumbermen on the Chernorucheisky Sector. Three days later the same material was repeated in a special broadcast of "The Latest News," and several days later lumbermen heard it all over again. This is not an isolated instance. A broadcast devoted to Ivan Kotov, initiator of a movement for full use of equipment, did not picture Ivan Kotov's initiative clearly or show just what he had contributed. Often the broadcasts for lumbermen are full of monotonous, boring items. The committee fails to utilize live, stirring talks given by agitators, confining itself to dry rewrites of these talks and to general statements on agitation work. This is because officials of the committee have only a superficial notion of what is going on in the lumber industry.

The local radio does a poor job of publicizing the struggle of the collective farm peasantry to carry through the main task in agriculture: to increase the yield of all farm crops, increase the number of livestock and increase their productivity. The experience of leading agricultural workers is poorly publicized. For some reason the broadcasts do not mention the work of horticulturists and other Michurinists, and agronomists, zootechnicians and other specialists and innovators rarely appear before the microphone. The committee has lost sight of farm equipment operators entirely.

There is no definite system for drama or music broadcasts, and the range of selection remains small. One often hears works which are ideologically and artistically weak. The writers give drab portrayals of leading Soviet workers. The stereotyped characteristics in the sketches do not give an accurate or profound notion of the live and creative work of production innovators.

The commentaries on drama and music broadcasts are written by people who lack an elementary understanding of the field of art. The music appreciation broadcasts are full of flagrant errors. The committee relies on the services of a small number of individuals, who are not always well informed about what they are writing.

A large symphony orchestra has been formed under the committee, but it is unused and will soon break up unless aided.

Improvement in the quality of broadcasts depends on increasing the radio broadcasting committee's responsibility to its listeners and on bolstering it with qualified personnel. Members of the committee must study life carefully and take more pains to recruit Party, Soviet, trade union and economic officials, scientists, writers, etc., to help with broadcasts.

In the hands of the Party organizations, well planned broadcasts are a powerful means for the communist education of the working people and for mobilizing them for economic and cultural tasks. It should be pointed out, however, that the Karelo-Finnish Communist Party Central Committee and the republic's Council of Ministers do not pay sufficient attention to local radio broadcasting. The Central Committee has only adopted one resolution in three years on the work of the Radio Broadcasting Committee, and that resolution is couched in general terms. The Central Committee's Propaganda and Agitation Department does not check on the content of broadcasts. The U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers' Radio Broadcasting Committee still provides poor guidance to the republic committee.

Local broadcasting is an important sector of ideological work, a powerful medium for educating the working people. It is essential that the local Party organizations pay more attention to this important matter.

Sports

BRILLIANT VICTORY FOR SOVIET BASKETBALL PLAYERS. —U.S.S.R. Team Wins European Championship. (Pravda, May 26, p. 4. 750 words. Summary:) The matches for the women's European basketball championship ended at Moscow's Central Dynamo Stadium May 25, with the Soviet team playing the Czechoslovak team for first and second places and winning 52-29. Thus the Soviet team has won first place and the European basketball championship twice in a row. The team will retain the championship until the next matches, planned for 1954.

Describing the results of the matches, Honored Master of Sports L. Alexeyeva, captain of the Soviet team, told a Pravda correspondent: "We are indebted for our success to the Communist Party, our Soviet government and beloved Comrade Stalin. ... The victory of the Soviet team is no accident. Sports have become the acquisition of millions of working people in our country. More and more new and talented athletes—ardent patriots of the Soviet homeland—come forward constantly from the ranks of Soviet young people."

The Soviet women's basketball team was awarded gold European championship medals for 1952, prizes and certificates. The Czechoslovak team was awarded silver medals and the Hungarian team, which placed third, bronze medals. Gifts were presented to all participants in the matches.

Miscellany

From the Editor's Mail: IMPROVE WORK OF COMMUNICATIONS AGENCIES. (Izvestia, May 21, p. 3. 450 words. Summary:) There are many basic shortcomings in the Ministry of Communications in its province administrations and its district offices. Izvestia has received many letters testifying to this.

One writer states that he sent 300 rubles from a Moscow post office to a town in Krasnodar Territory. The money was never received nor was it returned, although several complaints were made to the head of the post office department.

Another letter complains of a telegram being returned although the addressee had not moved, as the returned telegram indicated. Other letters complain of newspapers being delivered late.

What is the ministry doing to improve the work of communications agencies? Unfortunately, the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Communications often makes formal disposal of complaints instead of taking effective measures. In the case of a son who did not receive a certificate his father had mailed to him, the head of the ministry's Chief Post Office Administration replied that the party concerned would be reimbursed for the lost document. But the certificate was needed, not money.

The work of the communications agencies must be greatly improved.

Weekly Index to Pravda and Izvestia

This index provides a complete record of the contents of the two leading Soviet dailies. It is arranged by the same categories employed in the body of the issue, where the major stories are translated, condensed or summarized. Additional data are given in brackets when the Pravda or Izvestia headline is not self-explanatory. Datelines, newspapers and news services cited by Pravda or Izvestia as the source of the report are also given in brackets in many cases. Bibliographical data appear in this sequence: name of paper date/page - approximate length in words. Items starred appeared in a previous issue of the Current Digest.

MAY 21—27, INCLUSIVE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

WORLD POLITICS

UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chinese People's Republic [denying U.S. accusation in Economic and Social Council that Chinese People's Republic is illegally selling heroin to Japan], Pr-Izv 21/4-600. 14th session of U.N. Economic and Social Council [Soviet proposal that Chinese People's Republic be invited to participate rejected], Pr 22/4-225, Izv 22/4-700. 14th session of U.N. Economic and Social Council [adopts U.S. proposal to transmit complaints of violation of trade union rights in countries belonging to International Labor Organization to that organization and not to consider them at council session], Izv 23/3-350. In U.N. Disarmament Commission [Discussion of commission's first draft report to Security Council], Pr-Izv 24/3-1800. Meeting of Economic and Social Council [Soviet proposal on work program of Commission on the Status of Women for 1952-1953], Izv 25/4-600.

ATLANTIC PACT

The theme is preparation for an aggressive war [at Foreign Ministers' conference taking place in Paris], Pr-Izv 21/4-250. War preparations by countries of aggressive Atlantic bloc [Air and naval maneuvers to be held in North Sea in June], Izv 22/3-75. Protests against Ridgway's arrival in Paris, Izv 27/4-125.

PEACE FRONT

Peoples of countries of Asia and the Pacific warmly support convocation of peace conference of these countries [Hsinhua report], Pr 21/3-1900, Izv 21/3-1600. Struggle for peace is most important task of trade union movement [says meeting of Finnish leather, shoe and rubber workers], Pr 22/3-150. In struggle for peace [Preparations for peace conference to open in Budapest June 1], Pr 24/1-150. In honor of awarding International Stalin Peace Prize to Ikuo Oyama [30,000 attend meeting in Nagoya], Pr 27/4-50.

FAR EAST

Burma.—Bulletin [Peter Parfenovich Vladimirov replaces Alexander Ivanovich Savelyev as Soviet Ambassador to Burma], Pr-Izv 23/4-50.

China.—Motion pictures at service of Chinese people [Now 750 theaters and 1500 portable projection units in China, as compared with 500 of both before liberation], Izv 22/3-150. Cadres for China's national areas [Youth of 34 nationalities study in eight local and one central institute], Pr 23/1-150. Friends' help [Stalin Prize winner brings advanced methods to Shanghai machine builders], Pr 24/1-175. Message from Mao Tse-tung to Dalai Lama and Panchen Lama, Pr 25/3-175; under heading Anniversary of Tibet's peaceful liberation—Message from Mao Tse-tung to Dalai Lama and Panchen Lama, Izv 25/3-175. On first anniversary of Tibet's peaceful liberation [Article in Kwang Min Jih Pao], Pr 25/3-250. Anniversary of Tibet's peaceful liberation [marked in China], Pr 26/3-400, Izv 27/4-500. Mao Tse-tung holds reception for delegation of Chinese people's volunteers and Korean people's delegation, Pr 26/3-150, Izv 27/4-150. Soviet delegation leaves for Peking [to prepare for Asian peace conference], Pr-Izv 27/4-50. Tenth anniversary of Mao Tse-tung's Yenan speech on problems of literature and the arts [Meeting in Peking], Pr 27/4-125.

Indonesia.—U.S.A. attempts to draw Indonesia into its aggressive plans [by offering "aid"], Pr 21/4-275.

Japan.—Against fascistization of Japan [Third general strike called to protest reactionary bills], Pr 22/4-75, Izv 22/3-75. By order of American intelligence [Police kill three leaders of United Democratic Front, organization of Koreans in Japan], Izv 23/3-50. Revival of fascist organizations in Japan [800 such organizations have total membership of 300,000], Izv 24/4-100.

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He was expelled for deceiving the Party, for concealing his conviction from the Party organization, for taking advantage of his official position and for squandering materials in short supply. This much was stated in the Party resolution.

But what was most surprising of all, the Party resolution contained not one hint, not one word, about the loafers and dreamers who enabled the scoundrel to deceive the Party. What's more, Vladimir Moiseyevich Bukhman is still going strong.

Such is the edifying story of a confidence man and simpletons.

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Scholars and journalists have long encountered difficulty in obtaining current materials regarding the Soviet Union. They are peculiarly dependent upon following the Russian press closely for domestic developments, documents, statistics, indications of official attitudes and policies, and public declarations of the U. S. S. R.

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THE JOINT COMMITTEE
ON SLAVIC STUDIES

SOME PUBLICATIONS FROM WHICH TRANSLATIONS APPEAR

NEWSPAPERS

Gudok [Whistle], railroad daily.
Izvestia [News], government daily.
Komsomolskaya pravda [Young Communist League Truth], daily of Young Communist League of the Soviet Union.
Krasnaya zvezda [Red Star], Army daily.
Krasny flot [Red Fleet], Navy daily.
Literaturnaya gazeta [Literary Gazette], semiweekly of Soviet Writers' Union.
Moskovskaya pravda [Moscow Truth], Moscow city and province daily.
Pionerskaya pravda [Young Pioneer Truth], semiweekly for children.
Pravda [Truth], Communist Party daily.
Sotsialisticheskoye zemledeliye [Socialist Agriculture], Ministry of Agriculture daily.
Sovetskoye iskusstvo [Soviet Arts], semiweekly of Ministry of Cinematography, Committee on Affairs of the Arts and Committee on Affairs of Architecture.
Trud [Labor], daily of Central Council of Trade Unions.
Uchitelskaya gazeta [Teachers' Gazette], semiweekly of Union republic Ministries of Education and trade unions of educational workers.
Vechernyaya Moskva [Evening Moscow], Moscow city and province daily.
Vedomosti Verkhovnovo Soveta SSSR [Bulletin of U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet], weekly.

MAGAZINES

Bolshevik, Communist Party fortnightly.
Izvestia Akademii nauk SSSR [Journal of U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences], bimonthly, published in three separate volumes: Division of Economics and Law, Division of History and Philosophy, Division of Literature and Language.
Krokodil [Crocodile], fortnightly of humor and satire.
Kulturno-prosvetitelnaya rabota [Cultural-Educational Work], monthly dealing with adult education and indoctrination work.
Lektsii-broshury [Lecture Pamphlets], lectures published semiweekly by Society for Dissemination of Political and Scientific Knowledge.
Nauka i zhizn [Science and Life], monthly popular science magazine published by Society for Dissemination of Political and Scientific Knowledge.
Ogonyok [Flame], popular illustrated weekly.
Planovoye khozyaistvo [Planned Economy], monthly of State Planning Committee.
Poligraficheskoye proizvodstvo [Printing], monthly of Chief Administration of Printing, Publishing and Bookselling.
Professionalniye soyuzy [Trade Unions], monthly of Central Council of Trade Unions.
Semya i shkola [Family and School], monthly of Russian Academy of Pedagogical Sciences.
Slavyanye [Slavic World], Slavic Committee monthly.
Sotsialisticheskoye selskoye khozyaistvo [Socialist Agriculture], Ministry of Agriculture monthly.
Sovetskaya etnografia [Soviet Ethnography], monthly.
Sovetskaya kniga [Soviet Book], bibliographical monthly of Academy of Sciences.
Sovetskaya muzyka [Soviet Music], monthly of Union of Soviet Composers and Committee on Affairs of the Arts.
Sovetskaya pedagogika [Soviet Education], monthly of Russian Republic Academy of Pedagogical Sciences.
Sovetskoye gosudarstvo i pravo [Soviet State and Law], monthly of Academy of Sciences' Law Institute and Institute of Juridicial Sciences of Ministry of Justice.
Teatr [Theater], monthly of Soviet Writers' Union and Committee on Affairs of the Arts.
Vestnik Akademii nauk SSSR [Academy of Sciences Herald], monthly.
Voprosy ekonomiki [Problems of Economics], monthly of Academy of Sciences' Economics Institute.
Voprosy filosofii [Problems of Philosophy], thrice-yearly organ of Academy of Sciences' Philosophy Institute.
Voprosy istorii [Problems of History], monthly of Academy of Sciences' History Institute.
Vneshnyaya torgovlya [Foreign Trade], monthly of Ministry of Foreign Trade.
Zhurnal Moskovskoi Patriarkhii [Journal of Moscow Patriarchate], monthly of Moscow Patriarchate of Russian Orthodox Church.

Literary monthlies:
- Novy mir [New World].
- Oktyabr [October].
- Znamya [Banner].
- Zvezda [Star] (Leningrad).

TRANSLITERATION

The transliteration system employed by the Current Digest is designed for the convenience of readers who do not know Russian. The aim is to approximate the Russian words as closely as possible without diacritical marks, superscripts or apostrophes.

The following transliteration table is used except when names have recognized English spellings (e.g., Tschaikowsky, Alexander):

а	a	к	k#	х	kh
б	b	л	l	ц	ts
в	v	м	m	ч	ch
г	g*	н	n	ш	sh
д	d	о	o	щ	shch
е	e**	п	p	ъ	(omit)##
ё	yo†	р	r	ы	y
ж	zh	с	s	ь	(omit)##
з	z	т	t	э	e
и	i	у	u	ю	yu‡
й	i††	ф	f	я	ya‡‡

* г = v in genitive endings его (evo), ого (ovo).
** е = ye when initial and after ь, ъ and all vowels except ы, or when preceded by vowel-consonant combinations as in Slavyanye.
† ё = o after ж and ш.
†† Combinations ый and ий = y.
# кс = x in words using x in English forms (Maxim, Alexander).
ь and ъ before vowels are transliterated y.
‡ ю after ы = iu.
‡‡ я after ы = ia; after и = a, as in Izvestia.